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HISTORY OF WICHITA
AND
SEDGWICK COUNTY
KANSAS

PAST AND PRESENT

INCLUDING AN ACCOUNT OF THE CITIES, TOWNS
AND VILLAGES OF THE COUNTY

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

HON. O. H. BENTLEY

Vol. I

Illustrated

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CHICAGO

THE HISTORY OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

To the hardy pioneers of a great county, whose early hardships, fortitude and patience has made the desert to blossom like the rose and whose enterprise and faith has builded in the great American desert a peerless city and converted the erstwhile favorite feeding-ground of the buffalo into fruitful farms, with grateful acknowledgments to the gifted contributors, whose facile pens have so much embellished these pages, and especially to the press of Sedgwick county, which has proven a fund of reliable information; and more especially to that noble woman, Mrs. J. R. Mead, and that eminent lawyer and savant, Kos Harris, this History of Sedgwick County is affectionately inscribed, by

ORSEMUS H. BENTLEY,
The Editor-in-Chief.

INTRODUCTION

Few counties of the United States possess the stirring and romantic history that attaches to Sedgwick county. None has within such a short period of time achieved the fame and acquired the commanding commercial importance as the City of Wichita. Within the span of two generations, within the memory of men who are still in the prime of life, the wilderness has been transformed and a rich and thriving community has taken the place where once the Indians roamed at will and hunted the wild game, with which the prairies were so plentifully stocked. Nature provided the ideal site for the creation of such a city. But it was the work of man to build it, and few of those who now enjoy the benefits of their work have any adequate conception of the difficulties and hardships that the pioneers of Sedgwick county had to surmount. The builders of Wichita were men of indomitable perseverance. They were men who were endowed with prophetic vision. Unless they had been possessed of all these traits of character the city of Wichita would never have come into existence. They were able to forecast the future with a certainty that can only be characterized as marvelous, in view of the fulfilment of their predictions. They were laughed at as dreamers of dreams; they were scoffed at as visionaries. They were held up to ridicule, but the sturdiness and virility of these pioneers at last won the day for their cause, and the scoffers in time became the zealous converts and the active co-workers of the men they had ridiculed.

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To adequately write the history of Sedgwick county has been a work encompassed with tremendous difficulties. It has necessitated laborious investigation and research, and the coöperation of many of the oldest citizens. Of the history of the city itself, there is ample material to be obtained from the pioneers of the sixties and seventies. Many of these have long since passed to the other side, but they have left that record of their time. Still others are yet living, ripe in years and experience, but with a vivid recollection of the early days of the city's building

and a keen interest in relating the experiences of those epochal days. The stories of these pioneers form an indispensable and one of the most interesting parts of the present work. They possess also the additional value of authenticity. There is nothing of legend or tradition about their narratives. They are the plain, unvarnished tales of men and women, who bore the heat and burden of those days of trying endeavor, who endured almost incredible hardships, who never lost faith in the future greatness of their city and county, and many of whom still live to exult in its beauty and progress and to prophesy that the astounding development of today is but the forerunner of still greater things to come.

And who shall venture to assert that they are not right and justified in these predictions? Marvelous as have been the developments of the past, what finite mind will set the barrier at which progress shall cease? The commerce which has made Wichita the greatest shipping point in the Southwest will not dwindle as the years pass. The wealth of the inconceivable richness of the soil in Kansas, and Sedgwick county in particular, will continue, for ages to come, to pour a flood of riches through this natural gateway. The thousands of acres of the choicest farming lands in the world which the county possesses will in time form the homes of many hundreds of thousands of people, all of whom will contribute their moiety to the progress of the city of Wichita. The great Southwest will, year by year, send an ever increasing stream of its varied products to the city, there to be distributed to the markets of the world. The flood of commerce between the Orient and the East which will grow by leaps and bounds in the future, will always seek the city, because of its unrivalled transportation facilities. The unparalleled advantages which the city has to offer for manufacturing will in time make it one of the great industrial communities of the West. Here are all the essential conditions for the building of a great city, and with them nothing can stop its future growth and progress.

When Wichita sprang into being forty years ago, it was the only settlement in Sedgwick county. Today there are a score of more of villages within a radius of twenty-five miles of the city, and this development of the county is no less marvelous than that of the city. These cities are a part of the exploitation of the agricultural resources of the county, but they are not

mere camps. They are built to stay. They are cities in every sense of the word. Their schools and churches are equal to those of any city of the land. Their public buildings, residences and streets are metropolitan in character. They enjoy all the luxuries and refinements of life, with a climate that is ideal in character. These cities are progressive, alert, gifted with a fine sense of civic pride, and steadily forging ahead to a greater development. In time they will become the commercial centers of the great and rich agricultural country and productive farms. The supremacy which Sedgwick county now enjoys, of being the richest county, agriculturally, of the state, is solely because of the unequaled richness of its soil for agricultural purposes.

The publishers of the history desire to acknowledge the cordial and valuable assistance which has been accorded them in its compilation by many citizens of Wichita and Sedgwick county. It has been a help deeply appreciated, and deserves due recognition. Among those to whom thanks are due are the Eagle and the Beacon, whose store of valuable historical collections have been freely drawn upon, as well as the many contributors whose names head their contributions.

NOTE

All the biographical sketches published in this history were submitted to their respective subjects, or to the subscribers from whom the facts were primarily obtained, for their approval or correction before going to press, and a reasonable time was allowed in each case for the return of the typewritten copies. Most of them were returned to us within the time allotted, or before the work was printed, after being corrected or revised, and these may therefore be regarded as reasonably accurate.

A few, however, were not returned to us, and, as we have no means of knowing whether they contain errors or not, we can not vouch for their accuracy. In justice to our readers, and to render this work more valuable for reference purposes, we have indicated these uncorrected sketches by a small asterisk (*), placed immediately after the name of the subject.

C. F. COOPER & CO.

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HISTORY OF SEDGWICK COUNTY

CHAPTER I.

THE CITY OF WICHITA.

By

O. H. BENTLEY.

The ardent friends of Wichita are those who live within its borders; those who sojourn away from it long to return. It is always eulogized by its absent friends. Favorably located at the junction of two rivers, it aptly illustrates the saying that large streams always flow past great cities. That Wichita is the city of destiny, was a belief always fondly cherished by its founders. Wichita today is the most prosperous and rapidly growing city in the state of Kansas. It is the second city in size in the state and most favorably located on the banks of the Arkansas river, in one of the most fertile and productive valleys in America.

The population of Wichita is cosmopolitan in nature and energetic in spirit; is enterprising and public spirited. The city, being built upon the plains, had no special advantages geographically over any other part of the state. It so happened, however, that an aggregation of men constituted its first inhabitants who were wide awake to every opportunity that offered, and embraced them with a full knowledge of their value and importance. Around this nucleus of pioneer heroes came later on other and younger men of the same character, who promptly joined hands with those who laid the foundation of the city, and together, and in harmonious accord, pushed the city to the front and held it there. Whenever a united effort was required to accomplish a given object for the upbuilding of the city, not a laggard or a "kicker" was found within its ranks. Thus, by

reason of a remarkable unity of action and purpose on the part of all, a city has been builded of which its architects are justly proud.

Looking at the city as a whole, it possesses that rotundity not often found in cities of rapid growth.

Its foundation is laid upon the character and extent of the soil and climate of the surrounding territory. No country is blessed with a greater expanse of productive soil than that surrounding Wichita for hundreds of miles, which, as agricultural possibilities are developed, will always insure a most substantial trade for its merchants and consequent increase in the city's importance as a commercial center.

Within a radius of one hundred miles of the city there is already being produced annually 50,000,000 bushels of wheat, twice that many bushels of corn, and other cereals in proportion, together with a live stock production not exceeded in any section of the country of the same area. The jobbing trade of Wichita for the year 1909 reached the handsome aggregate of \$30,000,000. Wichita is now making rapid strides as a jobbing center. There are four large wholesale grocery houses, two large and rapidly extending packing plants, with others in prospect, two wholesale dry goods houses, two wholesale hardware establishments, one being one of the largest in the interior West, one wholesale millinery house, one wholesale hat house, several farm implement houses, besides a large number of smaller plants covering every possible line of trade.

Wichita's wholesale territory covers southern and western Kansas, reaching as far east as Fall River, and a large part of Oklahoma and a portion of western Texas. This territory is being rapidly extended.

During the year 1908 the wholesale lumber dealers of Wichita handled 12,000 cars of lumber, valued at \$4,000,000, while that manufactured into house furnishings by its five sash and door factories amounts to many thousands more. The city's manufactured products for 1909 sold on the markets for \$9,000,000. Wichita is rapidly forging to the front as a grain and milling center. The number of cars of grain handled by members of its Board of Trade in 1908 was 22,600 and in 1909 approximately 25,000. Its milling capacity is at present 4,000 barrels of flour per day. The four splendid flouring mills now in operation have handled during 1909 the immense

amount of 9,500 cars of grain and its products, the largest in the history of the city. This amount will be largely increased during the coming year. It is estimated that the wheat tributary to Wichita will aggregate 50,000,000 bushels annually, and by reason of favorable conditions now under consideration by the various systems of railroads serving this market may soon be increased to a greater sum. Wichita's bank deposits for the week closing with February, 1910, were \$12,000,000, which is an average month. This volume of business is transacted by eleven banks, whose clearing house reports show an average weekly transaction of business amounting to one and a half million dollars. The volume of merchandise of all descriptions consumed in Wichita and shipped through its jobbing houses to its legitimate country trade, when measured in bulk, reaches the enormous sum of 50,000 carloads, not counting grain shipments, which have been given in a separate item. The Union Stock Yards handled in 1909 756,560 hogs, 184,659 cattle, 22,796 sheep and 3,645 horses and mules, or over 14,083 cars of stock. Much of this was converted into packing house products by the two packing houses, whose daily capacity is 10,000 hogs, 5,000 cattle and 2,500 sheep. Nine hundred men are employed by these two institutions alone, while their combined products amount to 50,000,000 pounds annually. According to the latest enumeration Wichita has 230 manufacturing concerns of all descriptions, whose aggregate output runs into many millions of dollars. The farm implement trade in Wichita has within the last few years assumed flattering proportions. There are now located here fifty houses and agencies handling farm implements, many of these being branch houses, while others are transfer agencies only.

The street railway system of the city consists of thirty-five miles of splendidly equipped road, laid with heavy T rails, and a large share of it paved, two miles being laid in 1907 to the new Wonderland Park and the new fair grounds, with an added equipment of ten new cars. Forty passenger trains daily serve the city, running over fourteen diverging lines of road, and operated by five great systems. The public buildings are exceptionally fine for a young western town. They comprise the city hall, built of stone, cost \$300,000; federal building, of stone, cost \$300,000; Kansas Sanitarium, of brick, cost \$50,000; Masonic Temple, stone, cost \$250,000; county court house, of stone, cost \$250,000; new fire stations, of stone and brick, built in 1907 at

a cost of \$31,000; Y. M. C. A. building, of brick, built in 1907 at a cost of \$110,000. Wichita has fifteen public school buildings, twenty-nine churches, fifteen news journals (two daily), five hospitals, two homes for orphans and indigents, water works, gas and electric light, two telephone systems, libraries, and a parking system comprising in the aggregate 300 acres of lawns and flower beds, forests and ponds. Fairmount College, Friends' University, Mount Carmel Academy and Lewis Academy merit special mention, because of their vigorous growth, large attendance and wide influence, and consequent results in advancing the educational interests of the Southwest.

Natural gas conditions in 1908 show a very great improvement. Mains and service pipes to the extent of 150 miles are laid to every part of the city and manufacturers are being supplied with gas at a cost of 10 to 12½ cents per thousand feet. In the neighborhood of 350 manufacturing plants and 5,000 homes are at present supplied with gas. The Edison Light and Power Company expended \$385,000 during 1907 in its new plant and appurtenances and has the most modern electric light and power system in the United States today; electricity costing 40 per cent less in 1907 than in 1906. Wichita's hospitals, also, the Wichita Hospital and St. Francis Hospital, deserve the admiration of the citizens for the relief afforded by them to suffering humanity. In these two institutions are treated patients from all parts of Kansas, Oklahoma and even Texas and New Mexico. The city spent in 1907 \$100,000 for the storm water sewer now in course of construction, which when completed will cost \$297,000. Drainage canal and concrete bridge crossing the same, \$120,000. Paving in 1907, 12 miles, 20 miles in 1909 and 50 miles in 1910.

A knowledge of the growth of the city may be gained from the summary given below: The total cost of business houses constructed during 1908 was \$800,000; public buildings, \$200,000; dwellings, \$1,000,000; thus making a total expenditure in business and residence construction of \$2,000,000. Of these gratifying results the Wichita commercial bodies are not only very proud, but feel a deep and lasting interest because of efforts in bringing them about. By united efforts in placing the advantages of the city before the world, inquiries are constantly coming from all states in the Union for further details regarding special lines in which the inquirer may happen to be personally interested. The greatest factor, however, in keeping Wichita in the public eye

is the unswerving loyalty of its general citizenship at home and abroad. The 500 "Knights of the Grip" having their headquarters and residences in Wichita never tire of singing the virtues of their chosen city, and to them is due much of the credit for its success, and they are still on their way. For the past two or three years another important factor in the upbuilding of Wichita has been the Chamber of Commerce, composed of some of the best business men of Wichita. This is the second commercial body of the city, and without jealousy, in connection with the Commercial Club, works incessantly for the general good of the city. The Chamber of Commerce has already secured new and most commodious rooms on the tenth floor of the new Beacon block, and when located in its new quarters will greatly add to its numerical strength and numerical importance. The Commercial Club, the senior commercial body of the city, is now erecting a magnificent structure six stories in height at the corner of Market and First. These commercial bodies are a tower of strength to the city and are its pride, and their endorsement usually carries any fair proposition with the taxpayers. The present outlook for the city, in every direction, far exceeds that of any previous year, and that Wichita will attain a population of 100,000 in 1915 seems more than probable to its people. The Polk-McAvoy directory people, who have just completed the annual directory of the city, place its population at this time at 60,000. Commercial men report a large increase this year over last, and all lines of trade are especially prosperous. The outlook for the future of Wichita as a large and commanding city in the interior West is superb.

CHAPTER II.

EARLY HISTORY OF WICHITA.

By

FRED A. SOWERS.

Wichita was named after the band of Indians called the Wichitas. They came into this valley in 1864 and settled along the Little Arkansas river, between the junction and the old fair grounds. Some of their tepees were still standing on the land formerly owned by William Greiffenstein, north of town, as late as 1871. A chartered company was formed at Topeka, in the summer of 1868, comprised of ex-Governor Crawford, J. R. Mead, W. W. Lawrence, E. P. Bancroft (of Emporia), A. F. Horner and D. S. Munger, the latter arriving here during the same year, when the survey and plat of the original town were made by Mr. Finn. William Greiffenstein soon afterwards bought Lank Moore's claim. It now comprises Greiffenstein's original addition, on which the main portion of Wichita now stands.

At that time the business and prospects were away north of the present business center. Henry Vigus ran the "Buckhorn Tavern," where every class of frontiersman as well as border terror had a home. A music box was one of the features of the hotel, which was in itself most enlivening, often engaging the motley assemblies into a dirt floor dance. On one occasion it provoked the ire of Jack Ledford. While the Buckhorns were engaged at the evening repast he jerked a "Navy" from his belt and silenced it forever. Several of Wichita's citizens still here left the table precipitately to get fresh air outside.

"Durfee's Ranch" was the headquarters; Milo B. Kellogg was postmaster, clerk and bookkeeper, assisted by Charlie Hunter. Henry Vigus was doing the saddlery job work; Charley Garrison was mail rider, afterwards starting the first regular saddlery shop here. A long adobe south of Durfee's Ranch was Jack

Peyton's saddle shop and "Dutch Tobe's" shoe repair. John Gifford kept a saloon and refreshment stand in the log house, afterwards used as a stable by W. C. Woodman; he was the first man who died a natural death among the whites. A great many of the Wichita Indians died here during the cholera epidemic of 1866 and '67. As late as 1870 many skulls and curiosities were to be found on the prairie north of town, many of which Henry Vigus labeled with outlandish names and sent to the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, D. C. At that early day there was no lack of amusement, as the soldiers stationed here had formed a negro minstrel troupe out of their numbers, spoken of to this day as being equal to the best shows on the kerosene circuit. Their music also furnished the prime feature of frequent "adobe dances," with no sleep until morning, while "chasing the hours with flying feet."

Then D. S. Munger kept a hotel at which H. C. Sluss was a productive boarder. It has since been converted into a residence by W. C. Woodman. D. S. Munger was likewise postmaster and carried the mail in his hat. He used to empty the mail pouches on a bed and sort 'em over, putting enough in his hat for immediate delivery. He would then place one knee on the prairie and look them over; if he met the owner of one he would often call out to Mollie when his memory failed or a letter was floating around the house, or paper gone, if "she knew where Dan or Sam Hoover's or Doc Fabriques's paper was?" Whatever the response, he would look knowing, spit out some tobacco, readjust his cud, re-hat the mail, clinch it with his large red handkerchief, and lay plans for the future metropolis. He is gone, God bless him, to greater rest than he found here; but not without having lived to see Wichita a thriving city and he its police magistrate.

Doc. Lewellen kept the first grocery in the log house just north of Woodman's after Durfee's retirement, afterwards at the extreme north end of Main street. His old, two-story frame was afterwards the adjunct to one of our elevators. Lewellen's hall was over the grocery, and it was in this stately edifice (then) that the court was held after its removal from the sunflower roofed abode of Jack Peyton and Dutch Tobe. It was in this hall that Uncle Jack Peyton delivered his celebrated lecture on "Theology and Theocracy." Uncle Jack was a character as well as a saddler. Nature or an accident had shortened one of his limbs, otherwise he would have stood six feet and was built

in proportion. But as he was he would oscillate six feet or four feet and would rise and fall at his will. He had a most stentorian gift of voice and could out-swear a native Arizonian. He was pedantic and at times given heavily to grog. To these grog periods were we indebted for the first lecture course that ever attracted a Wichita audience. The subject, as above, was given to the public in a small wood type hand bill printed at the "Vidette" office, then boasting of only one wood font. The hall was brilliantly illuminated with six tallow candles held in their own grease, a store box the stand, and boards laid on nail kegs the seats. Quite a crowd of ladies and gentlemen were present; all kinds, and all expectant. Jim Vigus was present near the speaker's stand. Jim was an uproarious but always repentant bummer, always "full," and always ready to cry because of the lamentable fact, "cheeky," loud and shrill voiced, a lightning talker himself, but a poor listener.

After some delay Uncle Jack got up, six feet high, standing on one pin, announced his subject in a way down voice, started out deep and clear, but drunk and misty in ideas. He said: "Ladies and gentlemen, theology is religion as taught to the ministerial profession, theocracy is the—is the—well, anyhow (getting down to four feet), she defies the moral world." At this point up jumps Jim Vigus and rattled on like a buzzard clock: "Boys, old Jack Peyton don't know what he is talking about. I want to tell you the cause of getting drunk." Here Uncle Jack would rattle the windows with "Set down! Who paid for these candles, who rented this hall?"

In this strain for nearly an hour the lecture continued until nothing but shrieks of laughter and the occasional popping of a revolver through one of the open windows could be heard. In the midst of it all the lecture closed. Uncle Jack went to his shop and bottle, after a promise of what he would do in the same line " 't show 'em soon." Shortly after he and Jim both disappeared. But what they left behind them on this occasion will be remembered to the death hour of those who were fortunate enough to be present. Many other amusing incidents occurred that limited space will not admit of repeating. So we will narrow down to succinet history.

William Mathewson was here at an early date, freighting through Wichita as early as 1860. His wife was the first white woman that crossed the Arkansas river at this point (so far as

known), date 1865. The first sermon was preached in Durfrees Ranch in 1868 by Rev. Mr. Saxley, a Baptist, and the only hymn the boys knew was "Old John Brown." Mrs. Vigus was the first white woman that made Wichita her home, a most estimable and gentle natured lady who died in 1871. Mrs. D. S. Munger, who died in 1893, was the hostess of the Munger house. Mrs. Waterman, Mrs. N. A. English, Mrs. Everts, Mrs. Sayles, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. J. P. Allen, Mrs. H. H. Allen, Mrs. Abraham Smith and Mrs. Meagher were among the earlier settlers and all possessed of qualities that so distinguishes the unselfish sacrifices of the true pioneer women over all others. The first child born in the county, so far as known, was Sam Hoover's son, Sedgwick, born December 25, 1869, and named after his native county. The first child born in Wichita village was Frank H., son of Joseph P. Allen, druggist, July 3, 1870, surviving only about two months. Maud Teeter was born a few months prior, March 8th, but in the country adjacent to Wichita. The first marriage was that of Perry Eaton in the winter of 1869. Reuben Riggs opened the first law office during the winter of 1869, and H. C. Sluss in the spring. Steeie, Bright & Roe the first real estate office, north of the Ida May house on Main street. Joe Allen opened the first drug store on North Main street; Aldrich & Simmons still further north and near the corner of Main and Pine streets. John Dickey, now of Newton, was postmaster then, and the office was in Aldrich & Simmons' drug store. Jack Ledford traded Hubbard out of his interest with Matsill in the general merchandise business, getting also the Grand Hotel, then being built (afterwards the rear part of the Tremont). The store stood in an old two-story frame on the corner of Third and Main streets, where the first numbers of the "Eagle" were printed in 1872. Jack Ledford named the hotel the "Harris" House, to honor the maiden name of his wife. The hotel was not run by him over a month before he was killed in a street fight, almost in front of his hotel, late in February, 1871, by a company of United States soldiers and a band of government scouts who sought to arrest him for one of his past pleasantries (robbing a government train of fifty wagons and running off the stock, besides killing several of the drivers).

Edward W. Smith had a grocery and general outfitting store in a frame building on Main street, afterwards owned by W. C. Woodman and next door south of his bank. J. H. Black and Lee

Nixon were his clerks. J. M. Johnson opened the first exclusive grocery stock on North Main street, Arthur Allen, clerk. Arthur has since died. Bailey's was the first hardware store, kept in a little frame building located about where J. A. Black's diamond front grocery was. Mike Zimmerly started a hardware store and tin shop nearly opposite, and Schattner & Short kept a saloon in a frame building that stood upon the lot owned by Deacon Smith. H. H. Allen, Arthur's father, ran the first boarding house (a story and half) on the corner opposite Ford's grocery on upper Main street. John Martin ran a restaurant north of Steele's office, then north of Pine street, and just opposite was the Bismark saloon. "Doc." Oatley had a story and half residence where the Occidental now stands, and just north E. H. Nugent started the first bakery in a one-story frame, and sunk the first drive well on the premises ever operated in Wichita. Hills & Kramer opened the first regular dry-goods store on the corner just south of the Occidental Hotel. Although Mr. Hughes kept a small stock of dry goods and clothing prior in the building still standing on the west side of Main street between Second and Third. The "Vidette" building stood a few blocks further north. The "Vidette" was the first newspaper printed in the Arkansas valley for its entire length, and was founded by Fred A. Sowers.

Charley Hill opened a drug store in a small frame building near what was then Kimmerle & Adams' tombstone shop, afterwards building a few doors further south. In the meantime Sol. Kohn came down from Hays and rented a frame storeroom south of the Lynch building on upper Main street, due south of the Occidental, now called the Baltimore Hotel, where he opened out in drygoods, groceries, clothing, boots and shoes, etc. He soon built lower down and next door north to Charley Hill, both then north of the old court house. The first church edifice was an adobe with a dirt roof that stood a half block north of Third street on the east side of Main street. It was built by the Episcopalians, under guidance of the then pastor, Rev. J. P. Hilton. It was unique, to say the least, as we recall it now. A rude board cross was nailed up in front of the entrance; the light was admitted through two small apertures cut up high in the mud and secured by wooden shutters; the roof waved in summer with highly colored prairie flowers and a luxuriant growth of tall grass, and rattled in winter time with the wind

whistling through the naked sunflower stalks that grew up there also. The church was officered by such eminent moralists as Bill Hutchinson and Charley Schattner, who ran the Bon-ton saloon; George Richards, a traveling printer; Bill Dow (Rattlesnake Bill), a Cincinnati gambler, and John Edward Martin, whose chief anxiety in life was to get somewhere where he could not be found by the citizens of the place he last emigrated from. The above named were vestrymen. They sang in the choir, assisted in the sacrament, all wearing the robes of the church.

It was about this time that J. R. Mead, who had donated the church its ground, proposed to swap for another site further away, and some of the officers thought it an inferior location. The result was a Sunday after-service meeting, with all present, when the matter was fully discussed, and upon which occasion, as it waxed warm, William Bloomfield Hutchinson, a fully inducted vestryman, arose radiant in his vestry clothes and remarked in his usual smooth, bland and childlike manner, that "he didn't care a cuss what the other officers of the church done, but he was in emphatic opposition to seeing any citizen cheat Jesus Christ out of a foot of ground so long as he had power to interpose." The rest sedately fell into "Hutch's" opinion, so the matter quietly dropped and church was out for another holy Sabbath day.

In July, 1870, Wichita was incorporated as a town, with the following officers: C. A. Stafford and Chris T. Pierce, who kept a small grocery at the north end of town, Edward Smith, John Peyton (Uncle Jack) and Morgan Cox (afterwards landlord of the Avenue House) were the trustees; W. E. Van Trees, police magistrate; Ike Walker, marshal. April, 1871, the town was merged into a city of the third class, with Dr. E. B. Allen, mayor. Councilmen: W. B. Hutchinson, S. C. Johnson, Charles Schattner, Dr. Fabrique, George Schlichiter and George Vantileburgh. D. C. Hackett was appointed city attorney, H. E. Van Trees police judge and Mike Meagher marshal. W. C. Woodman & Son opened the first moneyed institution in 1871, as a loaning office, afterwards merged into the Arkansas Valley Bank. The Wichita Bank was opened in 1871, with C. Fraker, president; J. R. Mead, vice president, and A. H. Gossard, cashier. It started as a national bank and was closed shortly after the closing up of a cattle drive here in 1875. The Wichita Savings Bank was organized in 1872, with M. E. Clark, of Leavenworth, president; Sol.

H. Kohn, vice president, and A. A. Hyde, formerly of Leavenworth, cashier. It was incorporated in the fall of 1882 as a national bank.

In 1872 Wichita, through the efforts of our representatives at Topeka, was made a city of the second class, and out of a total vote of 479 elected E. B. Allen mayor for a second time; Mike Meagher, marshal; William Baldwin, city attorney; Charles A. Phillip, treasurer, and J. M. Atwood, police judge. During this year the big bridge spanning the Arkansas river, at the west end of Douglas avenue, was erected at a cost of \$27,000. The bridge was built by W. J. Hobson, contractor, and paid for by a joint stock company organized for that purpose. It nearly paid for itself in tolls the first year and would have made the company rich had it not been for the pluck of Lank Moore, Hills & Kramer, J. C. Fraker and other "north-enders," who forced it to be sold by starting a free bridge near the junction of the two rivers, where the park now is. The county then bought it and abolished tolls. The "drive" came in hot about this period in 1872. Wichita was the thriftiest and most uproarious town between the two seas. Large sign boards were posted up at the four conspicuous entrances into town (James G. Hope was then mayor), bearing the strange device: "Everything goes in Wichita; leave your revolvers at police headquarters and get a check; carrying concealed weapons strictly forbidden." Everything did go in Wichita; there was not a gambling device known to the world that was not in full operation openly. A variety theater nightly gave exhibitions in the old building then south of what was called the Hills & Kramer corner on Main street. It was, in fact, more of a free and easy than a theater. Then the streets just clanged with the noisy spurs of Texas cowboys and Mexican ranchmen, while the crowds that pushed along the resounding board sidewalks were as motley as one could expect if suddenly transported where there was a delegation from every nationality, hastily brought together, at a vanity fair to vie in oddity with each other. Whimsical and eccentric were our citizens of '72, with a constant nervous suppressed something in their expression that you never could quite fathom until there was a chance for a fight or a foot race. Then you would see the glad change sweep over their brow, dispelling the somber shadows, and lending a glad sparkle to the eye, as they went for the belt that held up their jeans and two navies and began to toy with the

triggers, while a sweet, expectant smile lit their sad looking countenances. Texas sombreros and leather leggins, the brigandish looking jackets with bright buttons close together of the Mexicans, the buckskin outfit of the frontiersman and the highly colored blanket representatives from a half dozen different tribes of "Poor Lo," all alike fantastic, but all fantastically different, mingled with noisy shouting, was a familiar street scene of early '72 at Wichita. Then add to this a brass band brought down from Kansas City by the gamblers, on a year's engagement, that played from morning until far into the night, on a two-story platform raised over the sidewalk against a large frame building that stood where the Kansas National Bank now is.

Steele & Smith's real estate office, a one-story frame with a wooden porch, occupied the New York store corner, and in the rear of it was pitched throughout the entire season of the drive a large tent, in which was given the exhibition of Prof. Gessley, the armless wonder. The street blew white with his progressive poem, "writ by hisself." It went on to say: "With the reigns between his toes, he loads, primes, puts on a cap and fires off a gun, and often goes to shoot wild game for want of better fun. He handles the pen with the ease of any in the land; in fact, his foot is turned into a hand." Connected therewith under one pavilion (in show parlance) was also the child wonder, born alive (but awfully dead at the time), with two heads, four arms, two feet and one perfect body; also a pig with two bodies and eight legs, to attract the crowd. A hand organ filled with doleful and disjointed tunes ground unceasingly, while at ten-minute interludes, all day long, would ring out the sharp report of the gun the professor fired with his toes, followed by the deep Pennsylvania Dutch accent of the professor, yelling in his hilarity until it could be heard above the organ and band over the way, "Dere she goes agin; kick like a mool!"

Mix this all with the motley caravan that thronged the streets, the fighting, yelling, swearing, and too often the ring of the revolver that carried death with it, the night scenes of dance houses, painted courtesans and drunken brawls, and you have the Wichita of 1871-72 and '73.

So Wichita began, a town at the junction of the two rivers, the early gathering point of the Osages, their favorite camping ground; all of the surrounding country abounded in game; the home of the buffalo, and their favorite feeding ground; abundant

waters, succulent grasses, delightful climate. A border town, a frontier trading post, a good town from the very first, full of traditions, full of history, full of energy and push, the future is full and promising for Wichita, and her destiny is to make a great city. That she will fill the promise of her founders, no one can doubt.

FIRST CITY OFFICERS OF WICHITA.

1872.

Mayor—E. B. Allen.

Police Judge—J. M. Atwood.

City Treasurer—Charles A. Phillip.

Marshal—M. Meagher.

City Attorney—M. Baldwin.

City Clerk—George S. Henry.

Justices of the Peace—William H. Roarke, H. E. Van Trees.

Constables—S. K. Ohmert, George De Amour.

Council—First ward, Dr. Owens, Charles Shattner; second ward, James A. Stevenson, C. A. Bayley; third ward, J. M. Martin, A. J. Langsdorf; fourth ward, J. C. Fraker, William Smith.

Board of Education—First ward, N. A. English, Nelson McClees; second ward, E. P. Waterman, W. C. Woodman; third ward, G. W. Reeves, R. S. West; fourth ward, A. H. Fabrique, Fred A. Sowers.

FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS OF SEDGWICK.

1872.

Judge Thirteenth District—W. P. Campbell.

Board of County Commissioners—H. C. Ramlow, R. N. Neeley, Sol. H. Kohn, chairman.

County Treasurer—S. S. Johnson.

County Clerk—Fred Schattner.

Sheriff—John Meagher.

Clerk District Court—John McIvor.

Probate Judge—William Baldwin.

Superintendent Public Instruction—W. C. Little.

Register of Deeds—John McIvor.

County Attorney—H. C. Sluss.

County Surveyor—John A. Sroufe.

THIRTEEN MAYORS IN THIRTY-NINE YEARS.

During its thirty-nine years' existence as a city, Wichita has had thirteen mayors. Of this number seven are dead and the other six reside here. Following is a list of the mayors in succession from first to last: E. B. Allen, 1871-72; James G. Hope, 1873-74 and 1876-77; George E. Harris, 1875; William Greiffenstein, 1878 and part of 1879, 1880-84; Sol. H. Kohn, 1879; B. W. Aldrich, 1885-86; J. P. Allen, 1887-88; George W. Clement, 1889-90; John B. Carey, 1891-92; L. M. Cox, 1893-96; Finlay Ross, 1897-1900 and 1905-6; B. F. McLean, 1901-4; John H. Graham, 1907-8; Charles L. Davidson, 1909-10.

William Greiffenstein occupied the mayor's chair in Wichita longer than any other man, having held the position about six years and a half. James G. Hope was elected to the office of mayor four times, but that was when mayors were elected every year. Next to Greiffenstein, Finlay Ross, who was elected three times and served six full years, has held the office longest. L. M. Cox was twice elected to the office and so was J. K. McLean, both of whom served four years.

The five living ex-mayors of Wichita are George E. Harris, of 224 South Lawrence avenue; Finlay Ross, of 821 North Waco avenue; L. M. Cox, of 529 North Waco avenue; B. F. McLean, of 313 North Seneca street, and John H. Graham, of 825 Wiley avenue.

CHAPTER III.

WICHITA AS A COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING CENTER.

By

EUGENE FAHL.

The truth about Wichita is good enough. The figures given in the following article are as nearly accurate as it was possible to obtain. They were obtained from the most authoritative sources. Came a day in early spring, just forty years ago, when a sturdy pioneer merchant jerked a paper bag from a pile of miscellaneous packages on the end of his rude counter, not to fill it with sugar or beans for a waiting customer, but to rip it open and draw thereon in his crude way the plat of the original city of Wichita. This document was filed for record on March 25, 1870. It is now in the recorder's office at the Sedgwick county court house, a beautiful building costing a quarter of a million dollars, in the substantial, fast growing city which the early day German trader was so largely instrumental in founding. Later, another pioneer of a different type, Colonel M. M. Murdock, founder and editor of the Wichita "Eagle" and one of the most talented and powerful personalities of the virile West, nicknamed the young city at the "meeting of the waters" of the Big Arkansas and Little Arkansas rivers, the "Peerless Princess of the Southwest," and this has been her nickname since that day. There were many lean years in the West between 1870 and 1900—many lean years. The Princess at times became haggard and careworn. Her enemies encompassed her about. Her trials and tribulations were many. They were the trials and tribulations of a royal pioneer. But today she is fair, fat and forty; she is no longer a princess but has become a queen—the Queen City of the Greater Southwest, her star is in the ascendant and her sturdy sons and daughters who stood by her through the dark days are now reaping the reward of their faithfulness.

Great mills, manufacturing establishments and mercantile houses, beautiful, well paved streets, splendid homes, churches and public buildings and excellent schools and collages are their portion. The domain of her subjects has become so rich in production that when the harvest time draws near the great wheat markets ask: "What is the outlook in Kansas?" and the answer affects the price of bread in all the nations of the earth. And therein lies her greatness, for her prosperity is founded upon the production of the necessities of life.

Today the population of Wichita is estimated by the compilers of the latest city directory at 60,000. Other estimates run as low as 55,000. Area, $18\frac{3}{4}$ square miles, with 375 miles of streets, about 30 miles of which are paved; water mains, 65 miles; capacity of pumping plant, 15,000,000 gallons per day; number of miles of public sewer, 75; assessed valuation, \$44,444,451; area public parks, 325 acres; altitude, 1,300 feet; average temperature for 21 years, 56 degrees; average rain fall for 21 years, $29\frac{2}{3}$ inches. Five railroad systems, as follows: Santa Fe, Rock Island, Frisco, Missouri Pacific, Orient, with 44 daily passenger trains. Electric street railway, 30 miles; natural gas mains, 100 miles; number of telephones in use in city, 6,500. Daily papers: The Wichita "Daily Eagle," the morning paper, and the Wichita "Daily Beacon," the evening paper. Public schools, 17 (three more will be ready for next term); academies (Catholic), 3; colleges, 2; business colleges, 2; colleges of music, 3; churches, 31; enrollment in public schools, 7,623. Public and semi-public buildings and their cost: Federal building, \$150,000; city hall, \$150,000; Sedgwick county court house, \$250,000; Masonic Temple, \$250,000; Masonic Home and grounds, \$250,000; Y. M. C. A. building, \$110,000; St. Francis Hospital, including grounds and equipment, \$200,000; construction begun on Convention Hall, \$150,000; Kansas Sanitarium, \$50,000. Number of banks, 11; total capital and surplus, \$1,013,000; deposits January 1, 1910, over \$11,000,000; bank clearings, 1909, \$128,399,860. Number of real estate sales in 1909, 5,331, amounting to \$9,612,580; postoffice receipts, \$232,326.61; building permits, approximately, \$4,000,000; city revenue, \$835,000. Number of jobbing and wholesale firms, 138, doing an annual business in 1909 of over \$40,000,000; packing houses, 2, with an annual production of 60,000,000 pounds; flouring mills, 5, with a daily capacity of 4,100 barrels; lumber business, \$10,000,000 in 1909. Wichita is

the largest broom corn market in the world, handling about 40,000 tons annually, has the largest broom factory, with a daily capacity of 2,000 dozen brooms. The value of automobiles distributed by Wichita dealers in 1909, \$1,250,000. Number of cars of grain bought and sold by the Board of Trade, 24,000. The Union Stock Yards handled in 1909 756,560 hogs, 184,659 cattle, 22,796 sheep and 3,645 horses and mules, or over 14,000 cars of stock.

GROWTH OF WICHITA.

It is difficult to show the important things concerning the growth of a city, in figures. The growth in population, in postal receipts, in bank deposits and bank clearings, etc., can all be given in figures. But the bustling activity, always apparent in a prosperous city, the expansion of the many mercantile and manufacturing establishments, many of them enlarged to double their former capacity, the atmosphere of general push and progressiveness, are hard to portray in figures. To the business man, however, who speaks the language of figures and is accustomed to it, the following comparative statistics regarding the city of Wichita will speak in no uncertain tones, for established cities do not grow at such a rate without cause. The cause in this instance is the rapid development of the greater Southwest, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico, which is just naturally Wichita's trade territory by right of location:

Population in 1900, 24,571; in 1910, 60,780, a growth of nearly 150 per cent in ten years. Bank clearings for 1906, \$58,062,985; for 1909, \$128,399,860, a gain of over \$70,000,000, or 121 per cent, in three years. Bank clearings for 1908, \$72,948,070; for 1909, \$128,399,860, a gain in one year of \$55,000,000, or 76 per cent. Bank deposits January 1, 1900, \$1,281,671; January 1 1910, \$11,000,000, an increase of almost 1,000 per cent in ten years. Building permits for 1908, \$1,563,200; for 1909, \$3,968,350, an increase in one year of 154 per cent. Postoffice receipts in 1900, \$73,934; in 1910, \$232,326.61, an increase in ten years of 212 per cent.

THE OUTLOOK.

It has been said recently by a man well informed in matters pertaining to the city that there are 800 buildings of various kinds in the course of construction in Wichita today. A ride

through the different sections of the city would lead one to believe that this statement was too low rather than too high, there being scarcely a block in the city without building improvements of some kind in progress. Wichita will be a city of 100,000 population in less than five years. Some of the larger projects now building or in immediate prospect (1910) are the following: A convention hall with a seating capacity of 5,000, to cost \$150,000, for which the contract has been let. New high school building to accommodate 1,200 students and costing \$150,000. Ten-story office building costing \$350,000, now well under way. Ten-story office building to cost approximately the same as above. Plans are drawn and construction will begin soon. Six-story office building and store costing \$55,000, nearly finished. Commercial Club building, \$85,000, well under way. Fine theater to cost \$75,000. Immense agricultural implement branch house, to be one of the largest in the West. Large wholesale grocery building, now under construction; a new firm in the city. Four-story building for a branch house of the largest dealers and manufacturers of plumbers' supplies in the world. Fifty miles of paving to cost over \$2,000,000. An electric interurban line, with sixty miles of track, connecting Wichita with a number of towns north and west of the city. Cost \$1,000,000; now under construction. Terminal Railroad Association will make extensive improvements, costing \$100,000. Orient railroad shops, to cost \$300,000, and employing about 300 men. Elevated railroad tracks and union passenger station, requiring an expenditure of about \$400,000. Paper and strawboard manufacturing plant, to cost \$500,000. Immense additions to one of the packing houses, \$300,000. Two new churches, one costing \$200,000 the other \$100,000. Wichita Natural Gas Company improvements costing \$400,000. The Street Railway Company will expend \$700,000 in improvements. Building permits for the first three months of 1910 are just about equal to the total of the year of 1908. The indications are that building operations in 1910 will exceed \$6,000,000.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The industrial and commercial interests of the city of Wichita in the order of their importance are as follows: First, wholesale and jobbing; second, handling live stock and packing meats; third, handling grain and milling flour and feed; fourth, handling

broom corn and manufacturing brooms; fifth, miscellaneous manufacturing.

No other city in the United States of equal size does so large an annual jobbing business. The principal lines are dry goods, groceries, notions, drugs, hardware, hats, shoes, furniture, agricultural implements and lumber. There are two large wholesale dry goods houses, five grocery houses, three drug houses, one hardware house, one wholesale hat house, one shoe house, one furniture house, one notion house, many implement houses, and the lumber jobbers, commission dealers and mill agents number over thirty. The traveling representatives of these houses are to be found in all parts of the fast developing territory of western Oklahoma, northern Texas and New Mexico, as well as in Kansas, and they sent in \$31,000,000 worth of business in 1909. Lumber companies whose general offices are in Wichita own and operate more than 250 lumber yards in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. Their annual business has reached the \$8,000,000 mark. One firm, the Boyle Commission Company, buys and sells over 2,000 carloads of potatoes per year, their record sales being 63 cars in one day and 530 cars in one month. A large four-story building is being built, to be occupied by an addition to the city's wholesale grocery business, the new firm coming to Wichita for the purpose of getting better railroad facilities, while one of the wholesale grocery firms, Jett & Wood, established some years ago, more than doubled the size of its building the past season, so that the increase in the wholesale grocery business is apparently keeping pace with the other lines of jobbing. A \$50,000-building is to be built immediately for the Wichita Wholesale Furniture Company, which has outgrown its present quarters. The capital of this firm will be doubled at once. The McArthur-Kiler Mercantile Company, a wholesale notion house, increased its business 100 per cent in 1909. From these few instances it will be seen that the wholesale business in Wichita is not exactly a losing proposition.

LIVE STOCK.

Second only in importance and annual business to the jobbing interests are the Wichita Union Stock Yards and their allied interests, the packing houses. Fourteen thousand and eighty-four cars of live stock were handled by this rapidly expanding market in 1909. These would make a train about 120 miles in length.

These cars contained 756,560 hogs, 184,659 cattle and 22,796 sheep. About 60,000,000 pounds of the finished product of pork, beef and mutton were cured and packed by the local packing plants. With the by-products their business in 1909 amounted to about \$9,000,000.

The new live stock exchange building is one of which any city might well be proud. Walls, floors and stairways are of molded cement construction, making the building absolutely fire-proof. The interior finish is of oak. Large, well lighted office rooms opening on a wide, roomy corridor make it an ideal office building.

GRAIN.

The Board of Trade is the great nerve center of the grain business in the Southwest. These men bought, sold and shipped in 1909 nearly 24,000 cars of grain. Not nearly all of this amount was handled in Wichita, as a large amount of it was shipped directly from originating point to the buyer. The five large flour mills of the city used a great amount of wheat, as their daily capacity of over 4,000 barrels of flour would indicate. Kansas wheat and Kansas flour are known and recognized the world over, wherever flour is bought and sold, as a distinct grade of very high quality. Within a radius of 100 miles of Wichita are raised annually 50,000,000 bushels of this justly celebrated hard winter wheat. As a milling wheat it has no superior. Kansas leads all the states of the Union in the production of wheat by a wide margin, the production in 1909 being 76,808,000 bushels, her record crop being 91,000,000 bushels.

The milling and mixing of alfalfa-grain stock foods is one of the industries in which Wichita leads the world. Three large mills and a number of smaller ones have an annual output of many thousands of tons, one mill alone having a capacity of sixty tons per day. Alfalfa stock food is a mixture of ground alfalfa hay and grains in such proportion as to furnish a balanced ration for all live stock. The territory tributary to Wichita is the greatest alfalfa producing section of the earth, Kansas being so far ahead of all other states that there is hardly a chance for comparison. While Kansas leads all other states in the production of wheat and alfalfa, yet her largest crop is corn, producing 150,640,000 bushels of this grain in 1909. It will be seen from this that there is no lack of raw material for the great flour

and feed mills of the city, nor would there be if their capacity was twice as large as at present. The American Alfalfa Food Company has one of the largest mills in the world devoted to the milling of alfalfa food. Mr. Otto Weiss, of Wichita, who is still in the alfalfa stock food business here, is the originator of the balanced ration food for stock.

MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURERS.

In the matter of miscellaneous manufacturers Wichita is well represented. The Mentholum Company, the Hydro-Carbon Company and the Brooks Tire Machine Company occupy factory buildings that are positively the last word in factory construction, and would be considered a credit to any city, eastern or western. When talking over the matter of manufactures and factories in Wichita with one of the prominent business men of the city the writer was told the following significant fact: "There is not a manufacturing establishment in Wichita that is not making money. If there is I do not know of it." The manufacturer of staple products has no monopoly of the profitable business. While the great flour and feed mills, the planing mills and sash and door factories, etc., are turning out products that are just as staple as the coin of the realm, and making good profits too, the manufacturer of special articles, such as those mentioned above, is getting his share of the business and the trade territory of these firms is not confined to Kansas nor the western country, but is world-wide. Wichita makes a strong bid for more manufacturers of specialties as well as miscellaneous staple articles. Cheap building sites and natural gas for power at 12½ cents per thousand, together with splendid railroad facilities, are some of the inducements held out to the manufacturing firm that is dissatisfied with its present location.

FINANCIAL.

As in every prosperous, growing city, real estate transactions are given a great deal of attention and at the present prices of property offer the most attractive investment propositions in the state of Kansas, and perhaps in the entire West. However, Wichita is not booming. The growth of the city is natural and healthy, and for this reason property values are very low compared to those of many cities that are doing less in the way of actual growth. Rents are reasonable, being little more than half

as much, for the same location, as in many other western cities which are no larger than Wichita, and in which the amount of annual business transacted is much less per capita. On account of this fact, real estate values will continue to increase steadily and Wichita property will continue to be a first-class investment. Bank deposits increased \$1,174,000 in the fifty-five days from February 2, 1910, to March 29, 1910.

WICHITA AS A HOME.

Wichita is noted for its beautiful streets, splendid shade trees and fine residences. University avenue, on the west side of the river, is one of the stateliest residence avenues in the United States. With its three rows of large maples on either side and the Friends University building, in all its massiveness, directly in line with the western end, closing the view in that direction, it is one of the most magnificent streets to be found in any city in the country. All the principal residence streets are lined with shade trees of extraordinary size. Trees four feet in diameter and eighty feet in height have been removed recently to make room for the wide sidewalks in front of new business buildings. There are seventeen public school buildings in the city, counting the high school. A new high school and three new ward schools are to be built at once. The population of the city is increasing so rapidly that it is difficult to keep the number of school rooms up to the required capacity. Both of Wichita's colleges are fully accredited educational institutions. Friends University, situated on the west side of the river, almost at the extreme western limits of the city, occupies one of the largest school buildings in the world. It is said to have ample accommodations, assembly rooms included, for 2,000 students. Its main chapel room, when fully completed, will seat 1,500 comfortably. Fairmount College is a Congregational college. It is situated on the hill in the extreme eastern part of the city. It has splendid buildings and an ideal location. The Carnegie library is located on the campus of this college.

The churches of Wichita number thirty-one. Some of them are especially fine buildings. The First Baptist, St. Paul's M. E. and Trinity M. E., the last named situated on the west side, are among the finest of them. The congregations which will erect new buildings this year are the First M. E., the First Presbyterian, each to build a \$100,000 edifice. The Catholic Cathedral will

also be pushed to completion this year and next and will cost \$200,000.

The Young Men's Christian Association occupies a fine building at the corner of First and Emporia. It has a well equipped gymnasium for the physical culture department, which is under the direction of a physical director who has achieved some remarkable results in the year in which he has been employed in that capacity. Evening educational classes are conducted during the winter months. Mr. A. A. Hyde is president and Mr. Clifford Pierce secretary of this splendid institution, which is doing so much for the younger generation of Wichita's male citizens, spirit, mind and body.

Wichita has three commercial organizations—the Chamber of Commerce, the Commercial Club and the West Wichita Commercial League. The Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Club are divided on the question of social features only. In matters concerning the welfare of the city and its citizens they work unitedly. The west side league is composed of the business men of the district west of the river. They have no social features. The Commercial Club is building an eighty-five-thousand-dollar club house on the corner of First and Market, which will be strictly fireproof and a credit to the city. The Chamber of Commerce is located on the tenth floor of the Beacon Building on South Main street, where they have elegant quarters.

The Riverside Club has just completed a splendid club house in Riverside at a cost of \$35,000. They will have tennis, boating and bathing for outdoor features, while the building is equipped with bowling alleys, billiard room and the usual country club equipment. Their cuisine is unsurpassed in the West.

The Wichita Country Club makes a specialty of the games of golf and tennis. They will build a new club house at once, to cost, when completed and equipped \$50,000.

WICHITA'S FLOUR PRODUCTION.

As a milling center, Wichita has established an enviable reputation and is now regarded as one of the most prominent in the Southwest. Not only is the city and large sections of the southern part of Kansas and northern Oklahoma supplied with the products of its mills, but large quantities of flour are shipped to nearly all the states of the Union, and large shipments are made to

Cuba, Europe and Oriental countries. The quality of the flour made in Wichita is not excelled by any in the world. Not even the famed mills of Minnesota are able to produce better. Kansas hard winter wheat has become noted for its excellent milling qualities, and nothing but this grade of wheat is used by the mills of Wichita.

There are five of these mills, with a combined capacity of 3,750 barrels of flour a day. Much of the time they are all operated to their full capacity. These are the Howard Mills Company, with a capacity of 300 barrels a day; the Imboden Milling Company, with a capacity of 350 barrels; the Kansas Milling Company, 1,500 barrels; the Watson Mill Company, 1,000 barrels, and the Red Star Milling Company, 600 barrels.

LUMBER TRADE OF WICHITA.

No industry in the Southwest has developed more rapidly than the lumber industry, which of necessity has been compelled to grow to keep pace with the improvement and development of the country. In this particular Wichita is credited with being one of the most prominent lumber-dealing towns west of Chicago, and among the best in the United States outside of milling centers. In addition to the twenty-two local yards, the lumber for 250 yards in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico is bought and paid for in Wichita, which is the headquarters of most of the companies having line yards throughout the Southwest. Last year the lumber business of Wichita aggregated \$10,000,000.

Nearly all the large mills of the West and South have representatives who make headquarters here, and in addition to these there are several wholesale lumber dealers. There are more than twenty of these lumber jobbers and agents, from whom most of the supplies for the yards in the Southwest are procured.

WICHITA JOBBING BUSINESS TOTALS FORTY MILLIONS A YEAR.

Wichita's jobbing business during the year 1909 approximated \$40,000,000, and it promises to show a decided increase in 1910. Wichita's jobbing business in 1909 was not only greater than that of any other town in Kansas, but it was greater than that of all the towns of Kansas combined. Wichita's jobbing business is greater than that of any other city of its size in the world. When

the men who came to Wichita many years ago opened small wholesale houses for the distribution of goods to meet the needs of the retailers throughout the then undeveloped sections of the Southwest, they laid the foundation for a business infinitely greater than any of them dared to dream of. The principal reason for this lies in the fact that, sanguine as they were, they had no conception of the possibilities of the Southwest. Towns that are now supplied from the enormous stocks of goods handled by the wholesalers of Wichita were not in existence then, and cities with thousands of inhabitants were mere trading points where the entire business of the community was transacted beneath a single roof.

The progress of Empire has done much for Wichita. It has brought into cultivation countless thousands of acres of rich soil, reared cities and developed the natural resources of the country contiguous to this metropolis until almost before its own residents are aware of it, it has become the great trade center of one of the largest and richest sections in America. All this has been accomplished in spite of the opposition of larger and more powerful competing towns, and much of the time in the face of railroad discrimination that to any one but a Kansan would be discouraging. Wichita has little reason to thank the outside world for what it has become, but, rather, it may properly congratulate itself upon possessing a citizenship that is always hopeful and undaunted and a constituency throughout the Southwest that has always been loyal. Wichita has as many wholesale dry goods houses as Kansas City. The combined business of these institutions during 1909 was over four and a half million dollars. Every one of these concerns has enjoyed a splendid increase in business since they were opened, and the prospect for a still greater growth is exceptionally bright.

Wichita has five large wholesale grocery houses, with an aggregate annual business of more than four and a half million dollars. One of these is just starting, but the others have been here many years, and they report a constantly growing business throughout the Southwest. Some of these institutions put up several lines of goods under their own label, which is a guaranty of their excellence. Wichita has the largest wholesale hardware house west of St. Louis, and its wares are a household word throughout the United States. There is not a town in the Southwest where they are not sold. The wholesale drug business of Wichita aggre-

gates three millions of dollars. It has three jobbing houses that handle everything essential in the way of drugs and druggists' supplies, and that ship goods to five states of the Southwest.

As a distributing center for machinery, no city in the world can compare with Wichita, size considered, and few of them can show as large a volume of business, no matter what their size. Practically all the implements, harvesting machinery and threshing machines used in the Southwest are distributed from Wichita.

It would not be practicable to go into detail regarding all the lines of business jobbed in Wichita, though nearly every article used in the homes, on the farms or in the banks, stores and offices of the country may be had here. There are, in addition to the lines already named, houses where may be procured everything necessary in the line of art goods, automobiles, barber supplies, boots and shoes, brooms and broomcorn, caps and hats, cash registers, chili supplies, cigars, coal, confectionery, cutlery, dental supplies, electric and telephone goods, fruits, furniture, harness, hay, jewelry, leather, lumber, millinery, music, notions, oils, paints, paper, photographic supplies, produce, poultry, plumbers' supplies, sand, trunks and other articles that can be found only in an up-to-date jobbing center.

There are, all told, one hundred and ninety wholesale and jobbing houses here. These statements, bombastic as they may seem to be, are truth and reliable, as any man may learn for himself who will take the trouble to investigate them. It is because Wichita can meet the demands of the great Southwest for everything needful for its sustenance, comfort and luxury that the business men of this city have inaugurated the plan of making annual tours into the territory so easily accessible to it. They know what they have to offer and they are willing to meet all honorable competition; they know what Wichita can do, and they propose to do all they can to convey this knowledge to the people, who should be mutually interested in the further development of the jobbing interests of the town.

THE JOHNSTON & LARIMER DRY GOODS COMPANY, WICHITA, KANSAS.

The above rapidly growing house is one of the oldest jobbing institutions in the Southwest. Commencing in a modest way twenty-five years ago, it has each year since made rapid gains.

Today it is considered by the merchants of the Great Southwest to be one of the most dependable houses to do business with. Some years ago the business demanded a large and modern building in order that it might be handled with the utmost dispatch and that the merchandise carried might be displayed to the best advantage and every facility afforded the customer to quickly and thoroughly inspect the classes of merchandise desired. To meet this need, five years ago, the company purchased a tract of land adjoining the Santa Fe depot. On this they erected one of the most modern buildings owned by any dry goods house in the country. It has five floors and a spacious basement. Each floor is fitted in the most intelligent manner for the best method of handling its particular class of goods carried, and is connected by elevators and telephone service, both local and long-distance; a customer can, therefore, talk to any department or person direct. On the fifth floor is located the Famous Jayanell Factory, where is manufactured the brand of overalls, work shirts, etc., known all over the Southwest for superiority of workmanship and durability. It is the only factory of its kind west of the Missouri river owned and operated by a wholesale dry goods concern under its own roof.

On the second floor the notion and hosiery departments are located. Mr. J. E. Osborne, manager and buyer, has been connected with this house sixteen years as department salesman, traveling salesman and, for the past three years, manager and buyer. On the third floor the factory or furnishing goods department is found. Mr. W. K. Jones, manager and buyer, served his first business experience with Mr. Johnston, some twenty years ago, and has been with the house ever since as department salesman and buyer. The whole of the fifth floor is devoted to the manufacture of the famous Jayanell brand of overalls, shirts, trousers, duck coats, etc., etc., and is under the able supervision of J. Q. Adams, who in turn is assisted by several lady superintendents. In this department particularly is evidenced the "temper" of this Square Deal House. Here most of the employes have been engaged since the factory was opened, some four years ago, and from time to time, as new machines were added, the most competent help was procured to operate them. They in turn appear glad to remain with this house, for square dealing and fair treatment seems to be its policy at home with its own employes as well as abroad with customers. The management is now and has been

for some time considering how best to add to their building in order to keep up with the rapid growth of their business, and shortly several more stories will be added, for the ground all around has been secured by other business concerns who realize too well the splendid value of its position to dispose of it at any price at all, so there is only one way to build and that is—skywards.

The personnel of the company is as follows: John L. Powell, president; W. E. Jett, vice president; Charles A. Magill, secretary and treasurer; G. A. Deakman, manager piece goods department; J. E. Osborne, manager notion and hosiery departments; W. K. Jones, manager furnishing goods department; W. M. G. Howse, manager sales department; J. Q. Adams, superintendent "Jayanell" factory.

Fifteen salesmen represent this enterprising house in the territory contiguous to Wichita, assisted at season times by special salesmen from the departments. The management proposes to extend this territory at the close of 1910 by adding two or three further representatives. The salesmen and their territories are:

George L. Elston, central Kansas; headquarters, Wichita. C. R. Dixon, central Kansas; headquarters, Wichita. J. M. Crossfield, southwestern Kansas; headquarters, Wichita. H. S. McCann, southwestern Kansas; headquarters, Wichita. H. C. Neely, southeastern Kansas; headquarters, Wichita. W. M. Neely, central Oklahoma, northern part; headquarters, Enid, Okla. W. Loveland, northeastern Oklahoma; headquarters, Guthrie. E. S. Wykert, southeastern Oklahoma; headquarters, Oklahoma City. B. D. Herlocker, southwestern Oklahoma; headquarters, Lawton. V. D. Wessel, western Oklahoma; headquarters, Kingman, Kan. W. S. Judkins, Texas and New Mexico; headquarters, Amarillo. M. W. Hellar, southern Colorado, Texas and western Oklahoma; headquarters, Alva, Okla. C. R. Thompson, western Kansas and Colorado; headquarters, Great Bend, Kan. F. O. Shoemaker, notion salesman; headquarters, Wichita. G. Sinniger, piece goods salesman; headquarters, Wichita. W. H. Saxe, factory salesman; headquarters, Wichita. Claude Zirkle, house salesman, piece goods department. Hugh McCormick, house salesman, piece goods department. Charles A. Coleman, house salesman, notion department. Lester Edwards, house salesman, notion department. Charles Schell, house salesman, furnishing goods department. Elmer Lyons, house salesman, furnishing goods department.

It is an achievement in which they take very much pride that every salesman who had represented the house so ably during 1909 started out to represent them again in 1910, and at the annual banquet much was made of this fact by the men themselves enthusiastically declaring their loyalty to the house and their increased confidence in their line.

WICHITA AS THE MANUFACTURING CITY OF THE GREAT SOUTHWEST.

Wichita is logically a manufacturing city, and as such it affords a splendid field for the investment of capital, energy and brains. Already it is giving employment to thousands of men and women who are engaged in its factories and who are making a prosperous living by their industry. In this way it is adding to its population as well as to its material prosperity. Only one other city in the state has more money invested in manufacturing industries or which employs more men or turns out more goods in the aggregate, and that is Kansas City. This is according to the statement of the State Labor Commissioner. Although but a comparatively short distance from the manufacturing cities of the East, Wichita still finds a ready sale for all its products. The great West and Southwest are open fields for its endeavor in this direction. Near at hand is to be obtained much of the raw material which, manufactured into serviceable articles or wares, finds ready sale wherever introduced. Few persons realize the extent of the manufacturing business in Wichita. Almost everything in common use is made, and many of the factories are operated on an extensive scale. A list of the factories, together with the articles manufactured, is given herewith:

Art Glass—Western Art Glass Works.

Alfalfa Mills—American Alfalfa Food Company, Otto Weiss Alfalfa Stock Food Company, Wichita Alfalfa Stock Food Company.

Boilers—Western Iron and Foundry Company.

Bricks—Jackson-Walker Coal and Material Company, Wichita Hydraulic Stone Company.

Bridges—Wichita Construction Company.

Brooms — Southwestern Broom and Warehouse Company, Wichita Broom and Brush Company, J. A. Graves, H. F. Ralston.

Building Steel—Wichita Stove and Iron Works.

Candy—McCoy-Bryan Candy Company, Western Biscuit Company, E. E. Newhold, Thomas Pasparis.

Cannery—Wichita Canning Company.

Carriages—W. H. Gaiser, E. O. Harrison, E. J. Koons, Mrs. M. A. McKenzie, J. E. Richmond.

Caskets—Wichita Casket Company.

Cast Iron Foundries—G. C. Christopher & Sons, Western Iron and Foundry Company, Wichita Stove and Iron Works.

Cement Block Machines—Western Iron and Foundry Company.

Cement Block Makers—G. E. Bartholomew, J. V. Brown, S. G. Butler, Cornelison Bros., Torrington Jordan, F. J. Schwartz, R. L. Wentz, Wichita Hydraulic Stone and Brick Company, Winfrey Cement Stone Works, Jackson Walker Coal and Material Company, R. F. Kirkpatrick, Cement Stone and Supply Company.

Cigars—Boyd Cigar Company, N. E. Burrus, Earhart & Lawless, George Herberger, John Herberger.

Cooper—William Bank.

Cornice Makers—American Cornice Works, Globe Cornice Works, W. M. Hartzell.

Crackers—Western Biscuit Company.

Creameries—Southwestern Creamery Company Wichita Creamery Company.

Cultivators—Reschke Machine Works.

Distilled Water—Distilled and Aerated Water Company.

Electrical Supplies—United Electric Company, Midland Light Company, Wichita Electrical Construction Company.

Elevators—Landis Electric Company.

Extracts—Murray & Co.

Fencing—Arkansas Valley Fence Company.

Fire Escapes—G. C. Christopher & Son, Western Iron and Foundry Company.

Flour Mills—Howard Mills Company, Watson Milling Company, Kansas Milling Company, Imboden Milling Company, Red Star Milling Company.

Furniture—Western Furniture and Manufacturing Company.

Gas Mantles—Incandescent Light and Supply Company.

Gates—A. F. Diggs.

Grain Bins—Kansas Metal Granary Company.

Grain Tanks—Wichita Construction Company, Kansas Metal Granary Company, Western Iron and Foundry Company.

Harness and Saddles—L. Hays Saddlery and Leather Company, McComb Bros., J. W. Gibson, E. Haskin, C. L. Pearson, C. O. Pollock, T. M. Powell.

Jap-a-Jap Salve—Jap-a-Jap Company.

Jewelry Makers—E. G. Gallant, Varney Jewelry Company.

Ice Cream—Arctic Ice Company, Steffen-Bretch Ice and Ice Cream Company, Bissantz Ice Cream Company, Wichita Creamery Company Bon Ton Bakery.

Ice—Arctic Ice Company, Crystal Ice Company, Steffen-Bretch Ice Company, Midland Ice Company, Wichita Ice and Cold Storage Company.

Joist Hangers—Western Iron and Foundry Company, Wichita Stove and Iron Works.

Lithographers, Engravers and Designers—Capper Engraving Company, Near Lithograph Company, Western Lithograph Company, Wheeler Lithograph Company, Wichita Engraving Company.

Mattresses—George Weterhold, G. T. Nolley.

Mentholatum—Mentholatum Company.

Metal Goods—Martin Metal Manufacturing Company.

Model Makers—Union Model and Machine Company, Wichita Pattern and Model Works, Arkansas Valley Fence Company.

Newspaper Ready Prints—Western Newspaper Union.

Novelties—Wichita Novelty Works.

Overalls, Etc.—Cox-Blodgett Dry Goods Company, Johnston & Larimer Dry Goods Company.

Packers of Meats—Cudahy Packing Company, Jacob Dold Packing Company.

Paint Makers—Hockaday Paint Company.

Paper Boxes—N. E. Owens.

Planing Mills—Eagle Planing Mill, Kansas Planing Mill, North End Planing Mill, Peerless Planing Mill, H. B. Taylor, Van Tuyl & Irwin, Western Planing Mill, Wichita Sash and Door Company, Wichman Bros.

Pop—Cox Bottling Works, Allen Bottling Works.

Refrigerators—E. J. Drake.

Rug Makers—Wichita Rug and Carpet Company.

Sash and Doors—United Sash and Door Company, Wichita Sash and Door Company.

Sash Weights—G. C. Christopher & Son, Western Iron and Foundry Company, Wichita Stove and Iron Works.

Shirt Makers—Pioneer Shirt Company.

Stock and Poultry Foods—Otto Weiss, American Alfalfa Food Company, Wichita Alfalfa Food Company.

Stoves—Wichita Stove and Iron Works.

Suspenders—Wichita Suspender Manufacturing Company.

Tents and Awnings—W. C. Langdon, Ponca Tent and Awning Company, Wichita Tent and Awning Company.

Tire-Setting Machines—Brooks Tire Machine Company.

Toilet Preparations—Jap-a-Jap Company, Mexican Manufacturing Company, Zona Toilet Company.

Trunks—McComb Bros., Wichita Trunk Company.

Underwear—Steiert & Co., Pioneer Shirt Company, Walker Bros.

Vinegar—Wichita Vinegar Works.

Yeast—Fleischman Yeast Company.

Zinc Etchings and Half-Tones—Wichita Engraving Company, Capper Engraving Company.

WICHITA HAS—

Wichita has an armory.

Wichita has one tannery.

Wichita has eleven parks.

Wichita has ten theaters.

Wichita has five railroads.

Wichita has four ice plants.

Wichita has six sanitariums.

Wichita has five flour mills.

Wichita has six planing mills.

Wichita has a fair association.

Wichita has three creameries.

Wichita has four box factories.

Wichita has one paint factory.

Wichita has six iron foundries.

Wichita has one school of art.

Wichita has a Deaconess' home.

Wichita has one casket factory.

Wichita has twenty-four hotels.

Wichita has four alfalfa mills.

Wichita has two glove factories.

Wichita has six steam laundries.

Wichita has forty-five churches.
Wichita has an automobile club.
Wichita has a mattress factory.
Wichita has six broom factories.
Wichita has four cigar factories.
Wichita has four bottling works.
Wichita has one canning factory.
Wichita has two daily newspapers.
Wichita has an interurban railway.
Wichita has sixty-four freight trains daily.
Wichita has two furniture factories.
Wichita has one monthly magazine.
Wichita has one hundred attorneys.
Wichita has nineteen public schools.
Wichita has nine weekly newspapers.
Wichita has four express companies.
Wichita has 552 streets and avenues.
Wichita has the State Masonic Home.
Wichita has seventy miles of paving.
Wichita has one shirt manufacturer.
Wichita has fifteen machine shops.
Wichita has two wholesale jewelers.
Wichita has one telephone company.
Wichita has ten wholesale coal dealers.
Wichita has eight typewriter agencies.
Wichita has 604 registered automobiles.
Wichita has thirty labor organizations.
Wichita has 500 "Knights of the Grip."
Wichita has one wholesale furniture house.
Wichita has two engraving companies.
Wichita has three large overall factories.
Wichita has thirty-five miles of trolley wires.
Wichita has an excellent public library.
Wichita has two trunk and grip factories.
Wichita has forty-six daily passenger trains.
Wichita has four large department stores.
Wichita has seventy-two secret societies.
Wichita has two wholesale hardware houses.
Wichita has two hide and wool houses.
Wichita has five wholesale grocery houses.
Wichita has five sporting goods houses.

Wichita has sixteen publishing houses.
Wichita has three wholesale drug houses.
Wichita has two wholesale paper houses.
Wichita has three manufacturers of cornice.
Wichita has a large art glass manufactory.
Wichita has three saddle and harness factories.
Wichita has six wholesale fruit dealers.
Wichita has three wholesale hay dealers. 1390090
Wichita has three wholesale meat dealers.
Wichita has three manufacturing jewelers.
Wichita is to have a new \$50,000 children's home.
Wichita is to build two \$100,000 churches this year.
Wichita has the commission form of city government.
Wichita has a \$150,000 auditorium under construction.
Wichita will build a \$150,000 high school this year.
Wichita has 150 miles of natural gas pipe.
Wichita has eleven state and national banks.
Wichita has more than 100 general contracting firms.
Wichita has three commercial organizations.
Wichita has two special trade organizations.
Wichita has two building and loan associations.
Wichita has a population of over 55,000 boosters.
Wichita has five wholesale dry goods houses.
Wichita has fourteen manufacturers of medicines.
Wichita has fifty implement houses and agencies.
Wichita has twenty private schools and colleges.
Wichita has three wholesale barber supply houses.
Wichita has forty-six wholesale lumber dealers.
Wichita has three concrete machine manufactories.
Wichita has a milling capacity of 3,800 barrels a day.
Wichita has a central fire station that cost \$31,000.
Wichita has thirty-two wholesale grain companies.
Wichita has the two youngest firemen in the world.
Wichita has seven benevolent and charitable homes.
Wichita has two of the finest country clubs in the state.
Wichita has three of the handsomest parks in the state.
Wichita has a Melon Arch bridge that cost \$100,000.
Wichita is the largest broomcorn center in the world.
Wichita has a steel fence post and stock feeder factory.
Wichita has two electric and telephone supply houses.
Wichita has two posts of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Wichita has two hospitals—the Wichita and the St. Francis.
Wichita is the acknowledged musical center of the Southwest.
Wichita has a new live stock exchange costing \$50,000.
Wichita has the Peerless Prophets Carnival Association.
Wichita has a library of city directories from 150 cities.

Wichita has four manufacturing and wholesaling confectioners.

Wichita has a stamp club that is one of the largest in the state.

Wichita has a wholesale publishing house of souvenir post cards.

Wichita has one of the largest broom factories in the United States.

Wichita has a right to the title "The Peerless Princess of the West."

Wichita has a drainage canal and concrete bridges which cost \$120,000.

Wichita has a score of artificial stone plants and one large brick plant.

Wichita has the home office of one life and two fire insurance companies.

Wichita is building a strawboard mill costing one-half million dollars.

Wichita has two packing houses that consume a carload of salt every day.

Wichita has golf and tennis players that range among the champions of the West.

Wichita has a large wholesale optical house that does a general optical business.

Wichita has twenty motor car houses that hold agencies for fifty different cars.

Wichita has the biggest bank clearings of any city of its size in five states.

Wichita has just completed a mammoth storm water sewer that has cost \$297,000.

Wichita has four large floral greenhouses covered by 100,000 square feet of glass.

Wichita has a Young Men's Christian Association building that cost \$100,000.

Wichita has builded 500 new buildings in the first four months of 1910. These buildings represent an outlay of \$2,000,000.

Wichita has bright prospects for a \$4,000,000 union depot and track elevation.

Wichita erected new homes and business blocks costing \$4,000,000 last year.

Wichita has thirty-five miles of street railway and more being constantly installed.

Wichita has the finest Masonic building, devoted exclusively to Masonry, in the world.

Wichita has now building the Orient railway shops that will cost \$1,000,000 and will employ 1,000 men.

Wichita has a retail credit directory with names of 11,000 buyers, published by the Merchants' Credit Bureau.

Wichita has army and navy recruiting stations for the United States and a United States weather bureau.

Wichita has under construction two ten-story office buildings—the Beacon Building and the Schweiter Block.

Wichita has the largest exclusive gasoline light factory in the United States. It is called the Hydro-Carbon Light Company.

Wichita has sixty-seven street cars, thirty-one of which are in operation at all times. This includes four of the finest trailer cars in the West.

Wichita has within its vicinity an annual production of wheat amounting to 50,000,000 bushels, twice that many bushels of corn, and other cereals in proportion.

Wichita has Union Stock Yards and two packing houses. The packing houses employ 3,000 men and their combined products amount to 50,000,000 pounds annually.

Wichita has nine of the finest buildings devoted to business interests in the state—the Boston Store, six stories; the Smyth Building, six stories; the Caldwell-Murdock Building, seven stories; the Beacon Block, ten stories; the Butts Buildings, six stories; Michigan Building, seven stories; Commercial Club Home, five stories; and Schweiter Building (under construction), ten stories.

A WORLD MARKET FOR BROOMCORN.

The story of Wichita's wonderful growth as a broomcorn center is old to members of that line of business—the men who make that market, who own the big warehouses, or who come here from the East, the North, the South and the West to get their supplies—but it still is new to many who have not yet heard that Wichita

is, in truth, the greatest broomcorn center in the whole world. Wichita sprang into prominence in the broomcorn world within a few short months. So rapidly did it become the big center of that important industry that the people here at home, though they realized and appreciated the city's other advantages, did not know that it was a broomcorn market until it had been leading all others in volume of business for a year or more. That was due, perhaps, to the well-known fact that broomcorn men are modest about their business affairs. They tell no one what they are doing, and make no boasts of prosperity nor complaints of adversity. They take things as they come, boost their city as private citizens, and add their considerable to its bank clearings without asking anything in return.

It was in the fall of 1904 that the American Warehouse Company was organized in Sterling, Kan., with the intention of making Wichita its headquarters. It was the first of the many broomcorn dealers now here to establish an office in this city. Late that year H. K. Lindsay, now president of that corporation, came to Wichita and opened an office in the Sim Building, at the corner of Douglas and North Emporia avenues. That was the entering wedge. Associated with Mr. Lindsay were the late Robert Findlay, one of the oldest dealers in the state, and half a dozen or more men equally prominent in the business in this and other states. Arrangements were made for storage, and ultimately the company purchased what formerly was known as the Burton Car Works, north of the city, converting the big buildings into warehouses, and changing the name of the place to "Amwaco," a name derived from the abbreviation of the corporate title of the company.

Other dealers followed the American into Wichita, until within a very few months this city became known as the Arcola of the West, and by another season it was leading even the Illinois markets as a distributing center. Today there is hardly a manufacturer in the country—none who uses Western brush—who does not make from one to half a dozen trips to Wichita every year. They come not only from all parts of the United States, but also from Cuba, Mexico and elsewhere.

Throughout the Wichita market, Kansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico brush is distributed among the manufacturers everywhere. Among broomcorn dealers, growers and users, the Wichita market is looked upon as standing in a class by itself, far above those

in the Illinois field, which held supremacy for so long. Its location near the big Western field, as well as its railroad facilities and the class of dealers found here, has made it.

Following its establishment on a firm basis came the big Southwestern Broom Company, which built at Wichita one of its largest plants, as well as its most complete. In 1909 it completed its buildings in the north part of the city, and commenced turning out gross after gross, and carload after carload of brooms, from an equipment that cannot be surpassed and that is capable of completing 1,000 dozens of brooms of all grades every day in the year.

A FEW OF THE MANY BIG THINGS THAT WICHITA IS DOING NOW.

Wichita's wholesale and jobbing business already amounts to about \$40,000,000 annually, and each week's growth is marvelous. Within a radius of 100 miles of Wichita there is produced annually 50,000,000 bushels of wheat and 100,000,000 bushels of corn. Wichita sold products which it manufactured in 1909 to the value of nearly \$10,000,000. Wichita's live stock market handled nearly 100,000 more cattle in 1909 than in 1908, and between 10,000 and 20,000 more hogs. Wichita's Board of Trade handled 30,000 cars of grain during the year 1909. Wichita's eleven banks are each holding on deposit an average of over \$1,000,000, or a total deposit of \$12,000,000. Wichita contracted for 505 new business and residence buildings, valued at \$2,000,000, in the months of January, February, March and April, 1910. Wichita, through its Union Stock Yards, in 1909, handled about 800,000 hogs, nearly 200,000 cattle, 25,000 sheep, 4,000 horses and mules. The total number of cars of live stock handled was about 15,000.

WICHITA BANK TAXES IN 1910.

Wichita banks will pay taxes in 1910 on a total valuation of \$1,063,530. This is a total increase for the eleven institutions included in the list of \$132,210 over their total, in 1909, \$931,320. In reality the increase is \$3,300 more than that, as the Commercial Bank in 1909 paid on that much real estate, which since that time has been transferred. While its valuation on this account shows a decrease in 1910, in reality it has increased, as its per-

sonal property valuation in 1909 was \$13,200, as compared with \$13,500 for 1910.

The new bank at the stock yards is not included in the list, for the reason that it was not organized until after April 1, 1910.

Banks are assessed for personal taxes on their capital stock, surplus and undivided profits, less their real estate where they own any. The figures here given include the real estate where any is given:

	1909.	1910.	Increase.
American State	\$ 75,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 35,000
Fourth National	300,000	330,000	30,000
Kansas National	200,000	220,000	20,000
National Bank of Commerce..	200,000	220,000	20,000
State Savings	25,000	25,000
Gold Savings	11,320	26,000	14,680
Citizens' State	15,000	23,000	8,000
Stock Yards State.....	11,000	12,390	1,390
Commercial	16,500	13,500	*300
Merchants' State	51,000	52,640	1,640
Wichita State	26,500	31,000	4,500
Totals	\$931,320	\$1,063,530	\$135,510

The country banks, of which there is at least one in nearly every town in the county, show similar increases as a rule. It is probable that their valuations would run the total property on which Sedgwick county banks pay taxes up to the neighborhood of one and one-half millions.

CONTRACTORS AND CRAFTSMEN HELP MAKE A GREATER WICHITA.

The growth and development of Wichita has made this city the home of the greatest construction companies and material supply concerns doing business in the Southwest. These concerns are not only carrying on enormous building operations in the city, but are reaching out over all the territory and making successful bids on practically all of the important construction work that is being done in this part of Kansas and the territory

*Real estate 1909 not included 1910, \$3,300.

south of it. Wichita is the Mecca, too, of artisans of every class. Carpenters, bricklayers, stone masons, cement workers, electricians, and representatives of all the other building crafts are here in greater numbers than they can be found in any other city in Kansas or in the Southwest, and their number is constantly increasing with the increasing demand for workmen in the building trades.

The reputation of Wichita as the city which has the most massive and modern buildings to be found in the State of Kansas has spread all over the Middle West, and it is this reputation that has attracted here some of the best equipped construction companies in the country.

These are employing their capital, their equipment and their men in the construction of the finest and largest office and business buildings ever erected in Kansas. All over the business district of Wichita the massive steel and concrete frames of uncompleted buildings give evidence of the greater Wichita which is coming, and coming soon.

It is a significant fact also that nearly two thousand new residences were erected in Wichita in 1909. The number to be built in 1910 may even pass the two-thousand mark, and each succeeding year is certain to pass all former records in this line.

These building operations also explain the presence of the numerous local concerns that handle large quantities of building materials of every description. No other city in Kansas has so many thriving dealers. No other city in the state handles so many planing-mill products as Wichita. There is no other city where so many brick and so much cement are used. Every class of building material has a ready market here, and in some lines the materials cannot be produced fast enough to meet the demands.

The material and construction companies are coming to constitute one of the important commercial interests of the city, and with such a flattering prospect of a rapid growth to a city of 100,000 people, there is every reason to believe that these interests will be enlarged and extended from year to year.

The pay roll created by these building operations is another thing that is promoting the Greater Wichita. Thousands of families here are supported by the work of builders, and Wichitas artisan element is as prosperous as that of any city in the United States.

THE WHY OF WICHITA'S GREATNESS AS A RAILWAY AND JOBBING CENTER.

Annual pay roll, \$1,500,000. Annual passenger receipts are \$1,000,000. Railways employ 2,000 persons in Wichita. Annual freight receipts, all lines, are \$6,000,000. Annual freight tonnage in and out, 3,000,000 tons. Wichita has sixty-four freight trains that handle 1,500 cars of freight daily. Brought to the live stock market 15,000 cars of stock and took out 5,000 cars. Wichita railways handled jobbing business totaling \$40,000,000 in 1909. Wichita mills produce over 800 carloads of flour and other mill-stuffs every month. Wichita is the largest broomcorn market in the world, handling 40,000 tons annually. The railways hauled out 60,000,000 pounds of packing-house products, worth \$10,000,000. Five railway systems handled into and out of Wichita market 24,000 cars of grain in 1909. Wichita has forty-six passenger trains every day, which handle 3,000 passengers in and out of the city. Passenger earnings for July of 1910 were 35 per cent greater than July of 1909, which was the banner month for all railways.

WICHITA DOES THINGS—HENCE ITS PROGRESS.

Here are some of the things Wichita is doing, as all may learn upon investigation: Protecting its park system and residence section by the construction of a costly concrete dam and river embankments. Extending its boulevard system along the banks of the rivers. Assisting in the making of excellent wagon roads leading into the city from every direction and making sand roads disappear. Spending a million dollars a year in paving and street improvements. Putting nearly half a million dollars into drainage and sanitary sewers. Erecting \$6,000,000 worth of buildings. Building the greatest convention hall in the state. Building the finest high school building in the state. Building \$525,000 worth of church edifices. Increasing its bank clearings millions of dollars annually. Increasing its building permits \$2,000,000 a year. Gaining in bank deposits \$1,000,000 a year. Gaining in population at the rate of 5,000 a year. Building an extensive Interurban Railway system. Building the finest modern car shops in the West. Building a paper mill at the cost of \$500,000. Erecting two ten-story office buildings, the first in the state, one

of which is the new home of "The Beacon," in the heart of Wichita.

A FEW BIG THINGS WICHITA HAS.

Wichita has an area of twenty square miles. Wichita has 400 miles of streets. Wichita has 500 miles of cement walks. Wichita has 110 miles of sanitary sewers. Wichita has forty miles of storm sewers. Wichita has thirty-five miles of paved streets. Cost of sanitary sewers constructed, \$450,000. Cost of storm sewer constructed, \$325,000. Sanitary sewers under contract, forty miles. Cost of sanitary sewer under contract, \$225,000. Cost of pavement constructed, \$1,250,000. Pavement under contract, ten miles. Cost of pavement under contract, \$500,000. Wichita has 200 acres of public parks, worth \$725,600. Other city property worth \$477,000.

PROPERTY VALUES IN WICHITA.

The final figures, recapitulations and estimates for the reports for 1910 from the County Assessor's office were furnished by the staff in Major Bristow's office:

Number of acres of taxable land under cultivation.....	451,797
Number of acres of taxable land not under cultivation...	163,464
Total number of acres of land taxable.....	615,261

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Average value per acre with improvements.....\$	48.36
Aggregate value of all lands taxable.....	29,757,936.00

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Number of improved town lots.....	2,089
Number of unimproved town lots.....	27,581
Total number of town lots.....	29,670

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Average value of town lots.....\$	71.62
Total value of all real estate.....	31,883,036.00
Aggregate value of all town lots.....	2,125,100.00
Total value personal property, City of Wichita....	13,700,600.00

GEO. W. BRISTOW, County Assessor.

INTERESTING FACTS CONCERNING WICHITA.

By

C. L. DAVIDSON.

The next issue of "The Book of American Municipalities will contain some interesting information concerning Wichita. The data has just been compiled by Mayor Davidson's secretary, at the request of the Municipal Information Bureau of Chicago. Among other things, the book will show: Wichita has an area of 18.75 square miles. The assessed valuation for the year 1909 is \$44,444,451. Revenue from all sources, \$468,088.04. Revenue from licenses, \$12,000. Revenue from police court, \$11,000. Bonded indebtedness, \$1,108,697.02. Special benefit indebtedness, \$755,323.93. The City of Wichita has never defaulted payment of a debt. Wichita has eighteen grade schools and one high school. The average school attendance is 6,643 daily. One hundred and forty-five teachers are employed in the public schools of Wichita. Wichita has ten colleges and technical schools. Wichita uses 5,000,000 gallons of water daily. Two hundred and sixty-eight are lights, costing \$66 each, and 418 vapor lights, costing \$27 each, are kept burning to light Wichita's streets. There are 130.66 miles of sewer in Wichita now and thirteen and one-half miles are under construction. There are 349½ miles of unimproved streets in Wichita and 25½ miles of improved streets. Sixteen and two-tenths miles of streets have been improved the past year, at a cost of \$898,012.58. There are 8,000 telephones in use in Wichita. There are 100 miles of gas mains in Wichita. In 1908 the expenditures for public improvements were as follows: Storm water sewer, \$400,000; paving, \$100,000; concrete bridge, \$300,000; fire station, \$25,000. Proposed improvements to be made at once: Auditorium, \$150,000; high school building, \$135,000; new sewer and paving, \$500,000.

**ONE MONTH ONLY—JANUARY, 1910—IN WICHITA,
KANSAS.**

In spite of the winter weather, the month of January broke all records for building permits in Wichita. The total was nearly three-quarters of a million dollars—in exact figures, \$735,075. Of



C. L. Davidson

this amount, \$625,400 was for business buildings, \$107,500 for dwellings, and the remainder for various small structures.

It may be noted here that four and one-half million dollars were spent for new buildings in Wichita in 1909. From all indications, the present year will greatly exceed this record.

The street railway company announces that it will spend \$700,000 this year for new power house, new car barn and other improvements.

The Union Stock Yards Company, having just completed a large and costly exchange building, states that \$50,000 more will be spent this year to take care of the rapidly growing live-stock interests.

The street railway company completes its loop in the downtown district to relieve the congestion of the busiest streets.

The City Commissioners let contracts in January for ten miles of paving.

Wichita's postoffice is made distributing station for postal supplies in the Southwest. The postmaster also finds that the average daily business of the postoffice has doubled in four years.

Second annual Pure Food Show is held—a big success.

Three new buildings are started for new motor car companies.

Beautiful library building at Fairmount College is dedicated.

Plans are accepted for \$150,000 high school building to be built this year.

International Harvester Company will have new four-story home built.

Wichita is healthy. Report of Health Department shows twice as many births as deaths in the city in 1909.

Two thousand birds are exhibited at the State Poultry Show.

Deposits in Wichita banks amount to eleven million dollars and are constantly increasing.

Construction work started on ten-story "Beacon" Block.

Highly successful automobile show is held.

The First Methodist Church decides to erect new building, to cost about \$100,000.

A \$300,000 hotel is one of the good things of which Wichita has received the promise the past month.

Plans are adopted for the \$125,000 Auditorium which the city is to build this year.

The Terminal Association, organized to systematically handle the freight-switching problems of the milling, packing and stock-

yards district, has planned extensive improvements and additions to the track facilities of that section.

Contract is let for the Catholic Cathedral, which will be an imposing structure of Bedford stone. It will cost, when ready for use, about \$200,000.

Foundation is put in for the five-story Commercial Club Building, to be occupied exclusively by that organization.

Wichita is the most rapidly growing city in the Southwest. It is situated in a rich and productive agricultural district and its large wholesale and manufacturing interests are placed in close touch with a profitable market by means of seven railway lines operated by five railway systems. Surveys are being made to connect the city with its most important neighbors by electric lines and it is expected to be only a few months until an extensive interurban system is in operation. The city has plenty of good water. It has natural gas for domestic and factory use. It has many splendid churches and excellent schools. It has many miles of paved streets, fine parks and driveways, a forest of shade trees in all parts of the city, and a mild climate unexcelled by any interior city. Wichita has three live commercial organizations, and an inquiry addressed to either the Chamber of Commerce, the Commercial Club or the West Side Business League will bring such information as you may wish.

ONE MONTH ONLY—FEBRUARY, 1910—IN WICHITA, KANSAS.

The most interesting news of the month to Wichita was the statement given out by the general manager of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient Railway that the contract had been let for the road's repair shops to be built in Wichita. The first unit of the shops will be built this year, and will furnish employment to 200 men at the start. The amount to be expended on this work is about \$350,000.

Three miles of additional paving is ordered by the city.

Five new business houses are to be erected in one block on North Main street.

The postmaster finds that Wichita's postoffice did 30 per cent more business in January, 1910, than it did in January, 1909.

A new wholesale firm is organized to handle supplies for bakers, and will begin business March 1.

The Crane Supply Company, wholesale steam fittings and plumbers' supplies, announces that it will begin immediately the erection of a six-story building to accommodate its growing business.

The Wichita Natural Gas Company announces the expenditure of \$400,000 to increase the capacity of their plant and lines to keep up with the increasing demand for gas.

The Farmers' and Bankers' Life Insurance Company is organized in Wichita, with \$250,000 capital stock, and a large surplus. Local capitalists are at the head of the company, and stock is being rapidly subscribed.

The beautiful new building of the Riverside Country Club is completed.

A new photo-engraving plant starts business, making two engraving companies in the city.

A wholesale bakery company will build a three-story home for its business, commencing work on it immediately.

A new theater, costing \$75,000, and having a seating capacity of 1,600, will be built this summer. It is intended to make it the finest in the state, and to have it ready for use by September 1, 1910.

Stock is being sold by a company which proposes to build an interurban line connecting Wichita with Chester, Neb.

Buildings and improvements to cost \$300,000 are to be added to the Wichita plant of the Cudahy Packing Company, as announced by the officers of the company. This company completed recently additions which greatly enlarged their plant, and the additions now ordered will call for the employment of over 300 more workmen when the new equipment is ready for operation, which is expected to be not later than next September.

Fifty new cattle pens at the stock yards and a new hotel to accommodate shippers are two improvements ordered by the directors of the Stock Yards Company.

The most valuable corner in Kansas, at Main and Douglas, will be cleared this spring for the erection of a ten-story store and office building. The plans were originally made for an eight-story structure, but the great demand for office rooms caused the change to a larger building.

A half-million-bushel grain elevator, which will be a bonded warehouse, is one of the good things of which February brought the promise. The project will give great impetus to the grain

business of Wichita, which is now one of the principal factors of the city's growth, and is a step toward making her the grain market of the West.

The total cost of public and private buildings and improvements now under construction and planned for construction this year in Wichita is nearly eight million dollars.

Wichita is increasing in population at the rate of about 20 per cent a year, while the business interests of the city are advancing by leaps and bounds, and nearly every wholesale and manufacturing company is enlarging or planning to enlarge its facilities. Every day marks the addition of a new business establishment in the city. The building of new railroads and interurban lines, which are assured, will open up an immense territory hitherto scarcely touched by the local companies. Wichita is a clean, beautiful, energetic city, and offers advantages to home-builders and business-builders unsurpassed by any city in the Middle West. The city's growth is conspicuously free from any "boom" movement or wild speculation.

THE WICHITA GRAIN MARKET.

By

W. F. McCULLOUGH,

President Wichita Board of Trade.

One of the most interesting studies in connection with the growth of a city is the tracing of the birth and development of the various lines of industry and trade that go to make up the busy whole. Very good advice it is, that we cultivate the habit of looking forward; yet there can be no denying the fact that a sober and conservative estimate of the future can only be arrived at by studying the events that have already transpired. Prophecy of the future growth of the city, state or nation is only well informed when the events and accomplishments of the past warrant us in believing in great possibilities for the future.

With this in mind, a consideration of Wichita as a central grain market cannot be complete without going back to the beginning of the city and following the development step by step. We find the young city's first shipping fame is founded on great cattle shipments; that the product of the ranges for hundreds of

miles were driven here to finish by rail the remainder of the trip to market. That this should come first was but natural, for the country had not as yet settled down to soil cultivation. This stage was, however, soon past, for a country so rich in soil could not remain a cattle range.

Year by year, thousands of acres of the virgin soil were broken out and the staple and principal crop was, from the first, winter wheat. The soil and climatic conditions were found to be peculiarly adapted to this cereal, and then was founded the great empire of wheat, the crop that has made Kansas famous, the crop of which she produces annually more than any other state in the Union, and which has made the farmers of central and western Kansas the most well-to-do of any similar body of men in any section of the country.

This, however, is anticipating, for at the time of which we write the steam gang plow and the grain header were unknown, and even the self-binder had hardly come into use. Wheat raising was not the "bonanza farming" that it has since become, yet so prolific was the soil, so earnest were the tilers, and such great distances was it hauled that Wichita became the greatest wagon wheat market in the United States. It came from far and near, from every direction, and in such quantities that unloading and shipping facilities were overtaxed. Grain elevators ran day and night and were still unable to care for the streams of wheat poured in from the surrounding country. There were no railroads west and south of Wichita at that time, and grain was hauled to this market distances of fifty and sixty miles or more, and old residents remember the time when lines of wheat wagons extended from the Douglas avenue bridge to the Santa Fe tracks, waiting their turn to unload. Many of these had to wait until the next day before they could be relieved and start on the homeward trip.

This situation was entirely changed by the building of railroads into the section of the state west and south of us. On these railroads numerous small towns and shipping points sprang up, and while the growth and settlement of the country contributed to Wichita's growth in many ways, it put an end to her distinction as a wagon wheat market.

During this time, however, Wichita was but undergoing a transition period from a country shipping point of grain to a wholesale grain market—the same transition period that is neces-

sary in this and any other city in changing from a local trading point, dependent upon the trade of such territory as can reach it by country roads, to a wholesale market, commanding the trade of states. Where the establishment of these new shipping points cost us the wagon trade of the territory in which they were located, we now handle the grain shipped from those points and from many others—in all a territory many times larger than we originally controlled. Where it was formerly handled in wagon loads, now it changes hands in carloads, and where formerly Wichita shipped wheat to other markets, it is now the market itself for the wheat from a great portion of Kansas and parts of Oklahoma and Nebraska.

This new condition of affairs began to be in evidence about the year 1901, although it was of small moment until two years later.

In 1903 the Wiehita Board of Trade was organized. There had formerly been a commercial organization known by the same name, which had been very effective in building up and promoting the growth of the city. The new Board of Trade was formulated, however, strictly as an organization of the grain dealers, and for the grain trade, along the lines of similar organizations in other cities. It was not noted for its strength at that time, every member realizing that to build a grain market required a long, hard effort. The charter membership at organization was fourteen, and several of these were not actively engaged in the grain business, but loaned their influence and membership to the new concern for its assistance. The value of memberships at organization was \$25 each, and the question may well have entered into the minds of the members, whether they were worth that amount.

However, it is necessary for everything to have a beginning, and this was the beginning of the grain organization of Wichita. From this time forward its growth has been steady. It has been necessary to overcome the competition of older established markets, coupled in many cases with freight rate adjustments, which rendered it well-nigh impossible to compete with them. Also was it necessary before material growth could be made that these discriminating rates be overcome and that we impress upon the railroads the necessity for our recognition as a market. Year by year, and one at a time, the various drawbacks have been overcome and reduced, materially assisted in some cases by the

interstate commerce commission, until now, although many adjustments are still necessary, we are in a position to hold our own and more than this, to grow.

The membership of the trade is limited to fifty at the present time, and these are all sold, and practically all in the hands of active grain merchants. None of them can be bought today for less than \$800, which by comparison with the price of \$25 at the time of organization tells better than anything else the growth of the business.

During the crop year of 1909 there were handled by the members of the Wichita Board of Trade 24,326 cars of grain, three-fourths of this being wheat, as befits a market located in the wheat belt of the state which raises a greater amount of wheat than any other. The season of 1910 will, no doubt, surpass this, as the receipts during July and August, the two heaviest months, were in excess of the same months last year.

Look at the map and fix the wheat belt of Kansas and Oklahoma, and find, if you can, a more favorable location for a great grain market and milling center. Why should we not grow? A review of present conditions and a comparison with a short time ago is the best encouragement, and fully justifies the faith of our people.

We have six terminal elevators, with a total storage capacity of a million and a quarter bushels, and a handling capacity of 125 cars of grain daily. We have five flouring mills, with a daily capacity of 4,100 barrels of flour, requiring 15,000 bushels of wheat per day to satisfy their needs alone. All of this built up in six years from practically nothing. With anything like the growth in the future that we have enjoyed in the past, Wichita will before many years take her place among the great primary grain markets of the country.

A GREAT MOTOR CAR CENTER.

Wichita is not only the greatest city in the Southwest, but the greatest motor car center in the West. That's what Wichita stands for in the motor world. With her twenty or more garages and agencies, which sell on the weekly average \$20,000 worth of motor cars, she ranks well up with the large motor car distributing point of the United States.

More cars were sold in 1910 from the Wichita motor car

houses than were sold from the agencies in Kansas City, Mo. Wichita agents supply Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas with motor cars—the greatest motor car country in the world.

Fifty or more of the leading motor car factories are represented in Wichita, and no matter how fastidious the purchaser may be he can find the latest motor car invention or accessory, for the Wichita agents keep right up to the dot.

At one time this year there were forty-five cars filled with motor cars on the tracks in Wichita. Wichita is the greatest distributing point for the Reo, Ford and Auburn motor cars west of the Mississippi. Collectively the motor car dealers are not only great hustlers and active business men, but are town boosters as well. A car very seldom goes out of Wichita on a long trip unless it bears a "Wichita Win" banner. The dealers not only find pleasure in disposing of their cars, but enjoy the prestige the sales give Wichita.

For fine garages and up-to-date machine plants for sick motor cars Wichita is equipped with the best. Several of the garages are two stories in height and have unusual storage room. Most of the fine garages have been built during the past two years.

The very latest models in motor cars are received in Wichita because the demand for the latest motor cars come in from this section. The motor car owners of this section of the country cannot enjoy motoring unless they have the very latest product from the factory. For this reason every year sees the habitual motorist with a new model car.

Wichita has been a motor car city for just about a decade. To speak of driving over the streets of Wichita in a motor driven vehicle ten years ago would have indicated real "battyness." Every one thought the Schollenberger boys near the dead line of sanity nine years ago when they startled the horses with the snorts of their noisy little motor car. There was much talk a little later when A. S. Parks ambled down to his sash and door plant on Rock Island avenue in a Locomobile. But when other men began to take up the idea of the motor car every one had to admit that there was something destined for the vehicle.

Since then Wichita has been adding motor cars until now it has more private motor cars on the city tax rolls than any other city in the state. Eight hundred motor cars are owned

in Wichita and new names are showing up in the city clerk's office every week.

Motor car interest in Wichita does not need urging. Every man that can scrape together the spare simoleons hies himself to the motor car store and invests in a gasoline barouche. The Wichita Automobile Club has been an important factor in making Wichita a large place on the motor car map. It has logged the principal roads out of Wichita and has mapped several runs, which are followed by the most enthusiastic motorists.

The era of good roads which is dawning in Sedgwick county can be traced to the appearance of the motor car. When the motorist began to travel over the country roads he found that they were mighty poor. Agitation for better roads commenced immediately and its fruition has come in the thirty-six miles of new sand and clay roads, which will soon make Sedgwick county the county of the best roads. The Wichita Automobile Club contributed \$2,000 towards the building of these new roads.

Plans are being made for the reorganization of the Automobile Club and plans for sociability runs will be considered. A big motor car show has been planned, at which all models of the best motor cars known to the motor world will be exhibited and demonstrated.

THE WICHITA RAILROAD & LIGHT COMPANY.

The Wichita Railroad & Light Company was organized in 1900 and have charge of all operation of thirty miles of street railway track in the city of Wichita. The passenger business has doubled in the last two years, and the character of the service and size of cars have been greatly increased.

The passenger car equipment consists of sixteen large double truck pay-as-you-enter cars, and twenty-seven single truck closed winter bodies, twelve single truck open cars and eight large double truck, baseball trailers. The regular service varies from eight-minute headway to twenty-minute headway, according to the amount of business done on the line. The most important line is the stock yards line, operating to the north end of the city, and passes the courthouse, several large flour mills, the Cudahy and Dold Packing companies, Union Stock yards and Missouri Pacific shops and the roundhouse. The second line in importance is the Topeka avenue, operating past the Masonic

Temple, Elks Club, Y. M. C. A., the St. Francis Hospital, the Kansas Milling Company and terminating at the Watson Milling Company at Seventeenth and St. Francis. The third line, the west side, operates on the west side of the river, past the Missouri Pacific depot, the Wichita Hospital, Masonic Home and out towards Friends University. The passengers on this line also reach Mt. Carmel, Battle Creek Sanitarium and the new Orient shops. The South Main line operates south, passing the city building, Hamilton Hotel and reaches the League baseball park, two miles out. The Emporia avenue line goes south on Emporia avenue through the residence district.

The College Hill line operates straight east two and one-half miles, passing all depots entering the city and reaches the Wichita Country Club. The Fairmount line operates north two miles from the College Hill, passing the cemeteries of the city, and ends at Fairmount College. The Pattie avenue line operates south and east of the railroad in residence district, and serves one of Wichita's prettiest parks, known as Linwood. The Cleveland avenue line operates east of the railroads through the residence district and serves McKinley Park. Waco avenue line operates northwest of the Missouri Pacific tracks, through residence district, and serves the territory west of the Little River at Eighteenth street. The Riverside Park line operates west from the courthouse through the largest and prettiest park in the city. It also passes the water works and reaches the Riverside Park Club. Passengers will take Riverside car to see Riverside zoo, which contains as many animals as many of the cities of ten times Wichita's population. The Wonderland Park line operates west of Douglas to Wonderland Park, the largest amusement park west of Kansas City, located on Wonderland Island. This line also serves the Sedgwick county fair grounds.

The company is spending large sums of money in improvements in cars, tracks, pavement, shops and improved power plant.

THE SASH AND DOOR INDUSTRY IN WICHITA.

Wichita is one of the most important planing mill and sash and door centers in the West. More sash and doors are shipped out of Wichita in a year than from any other city in the Southwest. This is due partially to the great number of yards of the

city, which are supplied with sash and similar products by the local mills and factories and also to the location of Wichita. In the early days Wichita was a supply station and it has continued to be such ever since. The sash and door companies ship on an average of two cars of sash, doors, etc., every week.

One of the largest factories in Wichita is the United Sash and Door Company. It has three warehouses on South Rock Island avenue. Its mill is the Western Planing Mill, which has recently been remodeled, a new dry kiln installed and more machinery put in.

This factory does a wholesale sash, door, glazing, paint and varnish business. Acres of glass are stored in the basement of the large warehouse and this can be glazed by expert glass men into almost any design and shape desired. All the doors of the common variety are glazed at the plant.

Sash and doors are made at the factory. The forms are cut at the planing mill and assembled in the factory. Two huge door presses which press the door frames together are kept busy all the time. There are numerous sandpaper machines, which give the doors and sash a smooth, even finish.

One hundred and fifty men are employed in the sash and door plant. During the winter months night work is done. All the local deliveries are made by a motor truck recently purchased.

The United Sash and Door plant has more than 150,000 square feet of floor space and every foot of it is used. It has its own lighting and generating plant and is a modern sash and door factory in every sense of the word.

The Western Planing mill is an adjunct of the United Sash and Door Company, which is well known over the Southwest. This mill has every modern woodworking machine known to woodworkers and all the work is under the supervision of a skilled foreman. Every man employed in the mill is an expert.

The largest dry kiln in the state is a feature of the planing mill. There green lumber from Louisiana, Canada, and, in fact, every part of the globe, is dried and prepared for use. The turning department does unusually fine work, as does the stair department. All sorts of saws can be seen there, but in spite of the many maiming instruments very few accidents occur.

The Rock Island Sash and Door Company is two years old in Wichita, but very much older outside the state. The ware-

house is on North Mosley avenue. No machinery is kept and nothing is worked up, all the material being shipped to Wichita from the head factory. A large stock of sash, doors and blinds is kept on hand and a very extensive business is done.

There is another sash and door house in Wichita that bears the title of the Wichita Sash and Door Company. This is located on North Water street. It is one of the oldest sash and door houses in the city and does an extensive business in sash and doors. It has its own modern planing mill.

The quality of the product sent out by these Wichita factories has had no little effect in giving Wichita a good reputation. The traveling representatives of these houses cover a territory comprised by several states and the Wichita goods are shipped into the districts where sash and door factories are common. All the Wichita factories are up to the minute in every particular and are helping materially to make Wichita win.

LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIALS.

By

C. A. LEASURE.

Prominent among the contributors to Wichita's commercial prosperity and eminence are her lumber and building material interests. That more materials of this character are marketed in and through Wichita than in any city of like size in the entire United States is the statement of wholesalers, whose experience and business connections enable them to speak with authority. Of course this will not pass without certain caviling exceptions being raised by some of Wichita's urban rivals in the Southwest, but the clincher to this statement is the fact that the volume of such business transacted here not only represents the local consumption of lumber and building materials, but also the stocks and supplies for 284 retail lumber yards, whose general management and purchasing agencies are located in this city. The retail businesses so represented are located throughout the states of Kansas and Oklahoma, the Panhandle of Texas, eastern New Mexico and eastern Colorado. The total number of cars of lumber marketed in the Wichita wholesale market during the last twelve months amounts well into the ten thousands, while during the previous year the volume was even larger.

In a wholesale way every prominent manufacturer of yellow pine and cypress lumber in the Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi district is represented in this city either by a personal representative or through the numerous commission and brokerage houses. In like manner the manufacturers of what is known in trade parlance as Pacific coast products, such as cedar, fir, spruce, white pine and redwood, are represented in the Wichita market, together with the hardwood products, such as oak, birch, maple and the like. In such manner is Wichita the chief jobbing center of lumber in the Southwest.

In the line of manufactured sash, doors and interior ornamental woodwork Wichita is not only a jobbing, but a manufacturing center. Located here and representing a capitalization and investment mounting well toward the half million mark is the United Sash and Door Company, whose plant and equipment are unexcelled west of the Mississippi river. Other manufacturers and jobbers in this line are the Western Planing Mill Company, an adjunct of the United; the Wichita Sash and Door Company, the Rock Island Sash and Door Company, and numerous other smaller planing mills operated by retail lumber yards as an adjunct to local business. These interests employ a corps of traveling salesmen, whose territory is bounded by the Rock mountains, the Gulf and the Missouri river.

Closely allied to the lumber interests are the brick, cement and plaster interests. These lines are all well represented in the Wichita wholesale market. All the manufacturers of Portland cement, the Iola, the United Kansas, the Monarch, the Fredonia, the Ash Grove and the Western States, maintain city sales forces, and from here the traveling sales force canvasses the southwest territory. The local consumption of cement, owing to the extensive street paving work of the last twelve months and the erection of large public buildings, such as the Schweiter and Beacon buildings, the Catholic cathedral, the Commercial Club and the high school, has been a record breaker, being estimated at between 200,000 and 250,000 barrels. Brick and plaster are lines represented in the Wichita market largely through jobbers, The Lumbermen's Supply Company, the Jackson-Walker Coal and Material Company and J. H. Turner being representative concerns in this trade. The Wichita Silix Brick Company manufactures and distributes here a brick unique to the trade, pure

white pressed brick, suitable for both exterior and interior use and for ornamental purposes.

Allied to this branch of the building material trade is the cement stone business, of which there are some twenty extensive manufacturers. The cheapening of cement, incident to the discovery in Kansas, Missouri and Iowa, of a shale having ingredients necessary for a practical cement product, is entirely responsible for the establishing of this industry. An idea of the extent of this business is best obtained from the fact that fully ninety out of every hundred domestic buildings erected in this city within the last three years have used this material for foundation purposes in preference to brick or stone, to say nothing of the many business buildings which have been erected in the recent past exclusively of this material.

In a retail way twenty-four lumber yards cater to the demands of the Wichita builder. Prominent among these are the J. W. Metz Lumber Company, the Long-Bell Lumber Company, the Rock Island Lumber Company, the Hill-Engstrom Lumber Company, the Schwartz Lumber Company, the Davidson-Case Lumber Company, the Pond-Comley Lumber Company, the Pratt Lumber Company, the Graham Lumber Company, the Caldwell-Hoffman Lumber Company, the Chastain-Cathey Lumber Company the Ketcham Lumber Company, the King Lumber Company, the Orient Lumber Company, the Zimmerman Lumber Company, the United Lumber Company, the South Side Lumber Company, the Shearer-Titus Lumber Company, and others. As shown by the records of building permits issued to Wichita builders, the aggregate of building operations in the city for the last twelve months is approximately \$6,000,000, in which total these institutions have shared for lumber and like materials used.

Headquarters, offices and purchasing agencies for yards located in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and eastern Colorado, located in Wichita are the J. W. Metz Lumber Company, the Davidson-Case Lumber Company, the Rock Island Lumber and Coal Company, the Big Jo Lumber Company, the Kirkwood Lumber Company, the Hill-Engstrom Lumber Company, the Amsden Lumber Company, the Pond-Comley Lumber Company, the Stewart Lumber Company, and others. From these offices are managed and supplies purchased for 284 country retail yards, while several of the concerns mentioned

maintain hardware and implement stocks in connection with their regular lumber and building material business in many of their country points. The capital investment represented in these interests is expressed well up in the seven figures.

The Wichita College of Music was organized and established four years ago by its present president and founder, Theodore Lindberg, the well-known violin artist. The building at No. 351 North Topeka avenue, which is the home of Mr. Lindberg, was used as a college building the first year, where all departments of the school were conducted. The second year the college moved into its splendid building especially erected and planned for a school of music at Nos. 217 and 219 North Lawrence avenue, right in the heart of the city. This building contains music studios, reading-room, office, and the beautiful Philharmonic Hall, seating 700, with all modern appliances, stage settings, pipe organ, etc., and within the past year this enterprising school has completed its ladies' hall, "The Lindon," at No. 315 East Third street, used as a boarding department for young ladies who attend the Wichita College of Music. This is a four-story, fireproof brick building, perfectly modern in every detail. The aggregate value of real estate and buildings now owned and under the direct supervision of the management of the College of Music amounts to more than \$75,000. During the season of 1909 more than 300 students attended the College of Music. The policy of the management has always been to employ only first-class teachers. It does not believe in employing assistant teachers. The success of the graduates from the College of Music has been exceptional, many of them holding responsible positions with schools and colleges with salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per year.

The Arctic Ice and Refrigerating Company, of Wichita, Kan., is one of the prominent industries of the city. Its plant, which was established at Rock Island avenue in 1907, extends from Rock Island avenue to the tracks of the Rock Island railroad, and has a frontage of 254 feet. The plant has a capacity for manufacturing 120 tons of ice daily, and its cold storage capacity is 500 cars of perishable goods at one time. Through a pipe line system it is also enabled to furnish refrigerating service about the city. This furnishes space and power for the Arctic Ice Cream Company, which produces 500 gallons of ice cream per day, which is shipped throughout the Southwest. In addition, the National

Bakers' Egg Company rents space, electric power and storage room in the plant. The officers of the Arctic Ice Company are: W. J. Trousdale, president; J. Elmer Reese, vice-president; W. H. Phillips, secretary and treasurer.

The Shelley Drug Company, located at 118 East Douglas, is considered to be the peer of any drug store in the Southwest. The interior fittings of the store are among the finest and most expensive in the United States, the fixtures being made of solid Honduras mahogany, trimmed in metal dipped in gold; the shelving all enclosed with heavy plate glass doors, while the top of the fixtures are studded with electric lights, giving a very handsome effect.

The soda fountain is of the same material, and is twenty-two feet long, with twenty-one tables, twelve stools and four buffets which will accommodate a party of six people each, making the seating capacity for the soda business of 120 people. Hot lunches are also served as well as the latest in cold drinks, and delicacies are served the year through.

On the outside of the store is one of the finest soda signs ever manufactured, representing a stream of soda flowing from a draught arm and filling the glass below. This sign is twenty-two feet in height and takes 396 Tungsten lamps to produce this effect.

The Shelley Drug Company bought the defunct Sharp-Vincent stock on May 30, 1909, closing it up for a week for decoration and repairs, and opening under the management of Mr. Chester D. Shelley, conducting the business at 126 North Main until February 4, 1910, moving at that time to 118 East Douglas avenue, one of the first drug locations in Wichita, George Matthews having opened at that location from 1876 to 1879, he then selling to M. P. Barnes and O. D. Barnes, the style of the firm being known as M. P. Barnes & Son until 1888, when the stock was sold and moved to other quarters, there being several different kinds of business in the building up to the time of the Shelley Drug Company occupancy.

Mr. O. D. Barnes, of the old firm of M. P. Barnes & Son, is now the principal owner of the Shelley Drug Company, but on account of his large property holdings does not take an active interest in the management of the drug store, leaving the entire management to Mr. Shelley, the junior member of the firm.

Mr. Shelley started in the drug business with his father at Hutchinson, Kan., about eighteen years ago, afterward coming to

Wichita with Wells W. Miller, at 248 North Main, for two or three years and after that with W. A. Stanford, at 102 East Douglas; C. H. Hutbell, at McPherson, Kan., and the Westhall Drug Company, at Oklahoma City.

After leaving Westhall's, Mr. Shelley was engaged in contracting in the oil fields of eastern Kansas and Oklahoma for three years, but when the oil business dropped went back to the drug business with H. B. Allen at 102 East Douglas, Wichita.

Mr. Shelley was married in March, 1908, to Miss Winnie Barnes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Barnes, moving to Oklahoma City, where he was connected with the Roach & Veazey Drug Company until he became interested in the present firm.

The Higginson Drug Company, of Wichita, Kan., corner of Douglas and Topeka avenues, is one of the oldest established retail drug houses in the city. It was organized and began business a quarter of a century ago, the first proprietors being Kerster & Romig. The style of the firm shortly changed to that of Kerster & Wallace, and later George Gehring and H. D. Higginson became proprietors. From 1904 to 1905 it was known as the Higginson Drug Company, H. D. Higginson proprietor. The company later became incorporated, and has since occupied its present location. The company has a trade that branches out to other states, from which orders are received daily. It has always borne the distinction of living up to the letter of the law, and its reputation in this respect is far-reaching. Henry D. Higginson, at the retirement of Mr. George Gehring, in 1905, reorganized the business under the name of the Higginson Drug Company in the fall of 1905, and continued as the proprietor until May 11, 1910, when Frank J. Garrety became the proprietor, continuing the well-known name of the Higginson Drug Company. Mr. Garrety was born in Gettysburg, Pa., on April 19, 1885. He is a son of John J. and Lulu J. Garrety, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Wichita in 1886, where the elder Garrety has since been engaged in the contracting business. Frank J. Garrety was educated in the public schools of Wichita, and began his business career by selling newspapers and shining shoes. He afterward obtained a clerkship with H. D. Cottman and worked for him for twelve years, when he opened the first moving picture show in the city at 410 East Douglas. From this he branched out until he had six show places, and sold out in April, 1910, and May 10, 1910, became the proprietor of the Higginson Drug Company. He is vice-

president of the T. M. A. and treasurer of the local Order of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Garrety was married on April 5, 1910, to Miss Sylvia Cone, daughter of Rufus Cone, of Wichita. Mr. Garrety is also interested as a stockholder in the American Paper Manufacturing Company, of Wichita. He is the financial representative of the Mount Carmel Academy, of Wichita, and is quite an extensive holder of improved real estate in the city.

The Wichita Trunk Company, a prosperous and promising manufacturing enterprise of Wichita, Kan., was reorganized in 1909 with Mr. Frank S. Rose, president; Mr. T. P. Kelso, vice-president, and Mr. Albert J. Errickson, secretary and treasurer. It occupies 7,000 square feet of floor space on the second and third floors of the building at No. 119-121 South Lawrence avenue, and with its thorough equipment and experienced force turns out a fine and full line of high-grade trunks and valises, and in fact everything pertaining to that line of trade. The men at the head of this enterprise are trained to their work and under their practical management, the business must soon outgrow the limits of retailing and take on the wider scope of wholesaling as well.

Mr. Rose was born in St. Louis, Mo., in 1872, to Frank and Mary (Bullock) Rose, who, in 1882 moved to Atchison, Kan., where the father organized the Rose Trunk Company. After leaving school our subject entered his father's establishment and acquired a thorough knowledge of the business, spending ten years as traveling salesman and a longer period as active manager of the factory and business. He is a member of B. P. O. Elks, K. of P., I. O. O. F. and a 32d degree Mason.

In 1907 Mr. Rose married Miss Lillian Elenore, daughter of Isaiah Brown and Julia Turpin Harris, of St. Louis county, Missouri.

Mr. Errickson is a native of Greenwood county, Kansas, and was born in 1871. He acquired a common school and academic education in his native place and later was graduated from the Southwestern Business College, at Wichita. In 1897 he entered the employ of the Dold Packing Company, at Wichita, Kan., and continued with that concern, serving in different capacities till 1909, when he assumed his duties as secretary and treasurer of the Wichita Trunk Company. In 1901 Mr. Errickson married Miss Minnie Howard, of Eureka, Kan., and they have one child, named Charles Abner.

Mr. Errickson is active in fraternal orders, being a Mason, a

Knight Templar, a Shriner and an Odd Fellow. He also holds membership in the Riverside Club and the Chamber of Commerce, of Wichita.

The Southwestern Mantel and Tile Company, J. E. McEvoy and James H. Murphy, proprietors, Wichita, Kan. This company was established on April 15, 1908, its specialties being interior marble, wall, ceiling, floor and fireplace tile, mantels, grates and furnishings. Its office is at No. 215 North Market street, Sedgwick Annex, Wichita. Mr. McEvoy is a native of Ohio, where he was born on October 4, 1851. He moved with his parents to Illinois, where he spent his early life in Grundy county, removing to LaSalle county, same state, in 1888. He obtained his education in the public schools of Illinois, and early learned the iron molder's trade. In 1878 he began work at his trade, which he followed for eighteen years, when he entered the mercantile business in Marseilles, Ill., later removing to Chicago, where he was engaged in the grocery business for two years. In 1908 Mr. McEvoy moved to Wichita, Kan., having spent one year prior to this at Coffeyville, Kan., where he was employed in a woodworking plant. Since the establishment of the mantel and tile business in Wichita several buildings have received adornment from this house, among them being the Princess Theater, Marple Theater, and also the Court Houses at Eldorado and Anthony, Kan. Mr. McEvoy is a Past Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He was married in 1882 to Miss Julia Wood, a native of Illinois. Four children have been born of this union, viz.: Stephen E., Margaret A., wife of Thomas Slattery, of Morris, Ill., and Mary E. and Julia.

James H. Murphy is a native of Illinois, where he was born in Chicago thirty-two years ago. He learned the mantel and tile trade in Chicago with George Reese in 1894, and has since followed it, being a practical man in every department of the work, especially as a tile setter. Mr. Murphy was for a time located at Tulsa, Okla., prior to his moving to Wichita and forming a partnership with Mr. McEvoy in 1908.

The Morton-Simmons Hardware Company is one of the big concerns of Wichita that is making the city known all over the country as a jobbing center. It is a concern that every citizen points out to strangers and travelers as being the representative business institution. The company is one of the five local houses

of the Simmons Hardware Company, of St. Louis, Mo., and Wichita takes it as a compliment that when Mr. E. C. Simmons, founder of the Simmons Hardware Company, was locating the local houses he selected the city as the logical and geographical center to which the merchants of this great Southwestern country would come for their goods. That his judgment was sound is proven by the fact that their business in this territory has been doubled since they located in Wichita. Their present building, fronting on East First street and extending from Mosley avenue to Rock Island avenue, was erected five years ago and contains more floor area than any other wholesale house in this locality. This building is 150 feet square, four stories in height, and back of it are the steam heating plant, axe handling department and loaded shell room. In addition to these are two warehouses on South Rock Island avenue, giving a total floor area of 108,888 square feet, or about two and one-half acres. The main building is thoroughly modern and up-to-date. It is protected from fire by an automatic sprinkler system, has messenger call boxes, intercommunicating house telephones and electric elevators. One hundred and fifteen men and women are required to carry on the business. The arrangement of the general offices is unique, being 150 feet long and but seventeen feet wide, and they occupy the entire south side of the second and main floors. This arrangement gives abundance of light to all desks. The city sales office is located on the first floor, for the convenience of the city trade. Adjoining and connected with the general office is a sample room in which there is an attractive display of samples of the most complete line of tools ever assembled under one brand—the celebrated Keen Kutter—which was established by Mr. E. C. Simmons fifty years ago. There is also a rest room for employes and customers, where comfortable chairs, reading material—books, current magazines and periodicals—are placed at their disposal.

The Wichita Abstract and Land Company was organized in 1894 and has a continued existence since, increasing its books with the growth of the city and county. Mr. J. E. Farrow, the present owner of the company and its president, came to Sedgewick county with his parents, James and Charlotte Farrow, in 1876, when six years of age. They settled in Grant township on a farm. The father died in Texas in 1900. The mother lives in Wichita. He attended the schools in Grant township and came to Wichita and took a business course in the Wichita Commercial

College and on graduating was connected with the school as a teacher for a year and a quarter. He was then appointed Deputy Register of Deeds, where he served for nine years and then for one year in the office of County Clerk. In 1910 he purchased the control of the Wichita Abstract and Land Company, to which he now devotes his whole time. He was married in 1894 to Miss Nellie I. Horts, daughter of S. H. Horts, of Grant township. They have three children—Clarice, Geraldine and Pauline.

WICHITA.

Some idea of the importance of the city and the opportunities it affords may here be obtained. In Wichita you will find:

The greatest broomcorn market in the world.

The best grain and stock market in Kansas.

The second largest distributing point for threshing machines in the world.

The second largest distributing point for agricultural implements in the United States.

The home of more dry goods jobbing houses than any town in the state.

The center of the richest and largest agricultural section in the country.

The meat packing center of the great Southwest.

As fine a climate as is to be found anywhere in this latitude.

A larger percentage of home owners than can be found in any city of its size in the country.

The center of the best apple growing section in the West.

The finest concrete arch bridge in the state of Kansas.

The tallest business blocks in Kansas.

The largest single college building west of the Mississippi river.

The most extensive and beautiful public parks in the state.

Commodious city, county and federal buildings.

The most extensive distributing point in the West for motor cars.

An excellent sanitary and storm water sewer system, insuring good health to its residents.

The most popular convention city in the state.

City water that is as pure as can be found anywhere, by actual test.

Five big flour mills with a capacity of 4,300 barrels of flour a day.

The home of 190 jobbing houses that handle more goods than are sold by all the jobbing houses of the state.

Headquarters for lumber dealers of the Southwest, where \$10,000,000 worth of lumber is bought and sold yearly.

One of the finest distributing houses of the largest wholesale hardware company in the world.

ROSTER OF CITY OFFICERS OF WICHITA, KANSAS, 1910.

Election held first Tuesday after first Monday in April.

Election Commissioner—Murry Myers.

Mayor—C. L. Davidson.

Clerk—William Sence.

Auditor—Finlay Ross.

Treasurer—E. A. Dorsey.

Attorney—A. S. Buzzi.

Engineer—B. C. Wells.

Assessor—G. W. Bristow.

Marshal—F. S. Burt.

Police Judge—Jesse D. Wall.

Physician—Dr. F. H. Slayton.

Weighmasters—George Majors, A. W. Wallace, R. P. Dodds.

WICHITA FIRE DEPARTMENT.

For efficiency there is no fire department in America that surpasses Wichita's fire fighting force. That is a broad statement, but figures of fire losses in American cities will show that the protection against fire in Wichita is second to none. Wichita never has had a really severe conflagration. Yet, but for the rapid and effective work of the fire laddies, there would have been many a disastrous fire. It is the fighting spirit of Wichita's firemen that has saved the city thousands from fire losses. For instance, not long ago fire broke out in a small barn which was almost consumed when the department arrived. Six other buildings in the immediate vicinity were saved through the rapid work of the firemen.

For twenty-four years the Wichita department has been headed by A. G. Walden as fire marshal. It has been largely through the leadership of Chief Walden that the Wichita fire de-

partment has been builded to such efficiency. Chief Walden has grown gray in the service of the city, yet in all his twenty-four years' fire fighting he has never failed to be in the thickest of the battle for the preservation of property. Chief Walden is ably assisted by A. S. Brownnewell, assistant chief of the department. Mr. Brownnewell has been in the service many years and for a period of two years he headed the department. In any absence of Chief Walden Assistant Brownnewell manages the department affairs carefully and well. The Wichita fire department consists of five stations in various parts of the city. The central station receives all alarms and directs the actions of the outlying stations. The substations are located at College Hill, North End, South End and the west side. Each station carries equipment sufficient to control any ordinary blaze within its territory. Always, however, the central station sends assistance. It is rarely that the entire department is called out for any one fire. There are forty men in the Wichita fire department. Every man is a fighter of tried character. Many are old in the service and each may be depended upon in a crisis. A fire crisis comes rarely, but when one does arrive there is need for men who can meet it. Such men belong to the Wichita fire department.

Recently Chief Walden has begun the reorganization of the department's equipment on the motor car basis. The city's first motor driven chemical engine was purchased in 1909. In a few months it has so thoroughly proven its superiority over horse-drawn apparatus that more motor driven equipment is inevitable. Chief Walden recently offered the opinion that in ten years Wichita would have no horses at any of the stations. For twenty-four years Chief Walden has been attending the annual conventions of the American fire engineers. In that time he has become recognized as one of the foremost fire fighters in the country. At a recent meeting of the association he was invited to sit for a photograph with department chiefs from New York city, Kansas City, Cleveland, Denver and Chicago.

CHAPTER IV.

THE WICHITA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

By

EUGENE FAHL, SECRETARY.

Cities are made for commerce. Some cities boast of their wealth; others of their splendid buildings and beautiful streets; others of the culture and refinement of their citizens, but the primary cause of all these congested knots of humanity, called cities, scattered everywhere over the face of the earth is commerce.

In every city of any considerable size this commerce in its various phases produces problems so large and numerous and varied that nothing short of a well organized body of business men can hope to successfully cope with them. Then, too, cities must be watched from a civic viewpoint as well as from the commercial side. The civic affairs of a city are better administered if the mayor and city commissioners or city council are conscious of being constantly under the watchful eye of an influential organization which has at all times a thumb on the public pulse, and which in itself constitutes a large part of that pulse. The growth of a city is also a matter of much importance. Every city wants to grow. Every city should grow. In the matter of bringing new industries to a city there is an absolute necessity for the well directed efforts of an organization of the resident business men of that city.

The Chamber of Commerce of the city of Wichita was organized in 1901 for the purpose of promoting the commercial and civic welfare of Wichita citizens and for the further purpose of making known to the world the exceptional advantages of that city as a commercial and industrial center and as a home city. Several different men lay claim to the distinction of starting the organization of this splendid body of business and pro-

fessional men. Mr. J. M. Knapp was the first one to start out with a subscription list, however, and seems to be entitled to whatever credit may be due for starting the organization. The first president of the club was C. L. Davidson, who served for three years in that capacity; J. H. Stewart was the first vice-president; James Allison, second vice-president; L. S. Naftszger, treasurer, and M. W. Levy, secretary. Offices were opened in one of the basement rooms of the City building, which continued to be the headquarters of the club until early in the spring of 1906. George W. Smith succeeded Mr. Levy as secretary after the first year. He prepared a booklet which gave, in a concise way, many interesting facts regarding Wichita and containing a number of illustrations of the public buildings, colleges, park and street scenes, hotels, residences, etc. Fifty thousand of these booklets were printed and widely distributed.

The second man to serve as president of this club was J. E. Howard, who was followed by I. N. Hockaday, who was succeeded by George M. Dickson, whose last term expired January 1, 1910. O. A. Boyle was elected president for the year 1910, which brings us down to the date of this writing.

Early in the spring of 1906 the headquarters of the club were moved to the building at 133 North Market street, and a dining room and many social features were added. Drinking and card playing have never been allowed in the clubrooms, however, and this is a settled policy of the club, as the membership is largely made up of Christian gentlemen who will not countenance anything of that character. At the first meeting of the board of directors in the month of April, 1910, it was decided to lease new quarters on the tenth floor of the new Beacon building on South Main street, which will give them quarters not excelled by those of any commercial body in the West.

Since its inception the Chamber of Commerce has had at its head, both as officers and directors, men of the very highest character and ability, who have worked unitedly for the building up of their city and for the successful solving of its many and perplexing problems. In the assembly rooms of its present quarters many important questions touching the civic life of Wichita have been threshed over and definite working plans arrived at. Many enterprises, involving the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars, have been promoted there. Its rooms have at all times been freely opened to any organization, of whatever

character, which was working for the advancement of the interests of Wichita and her citizens. Among the things which the Chamber of Commerce has done or aided in doing may be mentioned the following:

Bringing the Interstate Commerce Commission to Wichita to investigate the matter of unjust freight rates and discrimination in favor of other cities. This was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Davidson as president of the club and was the beginning of the fight for equitable freight rates, which is still going on at the present date. The Southwestern Fair Association was started by the Chamber of Commerce and for some time the headquarters of the fair were in the clubrooms. This annual exposition of farm products has contributed in no small degree to the development of Sedgwick county agriculture, and it has also been an occasion of profitable and much-needed recreation.

Largely through the efforts of this club, natural gas for fuel and light was piped from the gas belt farther east. This cheap fuel gas has been a potent factor in the matter of securing new industrial enterprises for Wichita and the Chamber has seen to it that the manufacturing world was made aware of this great convenience. Probably no other one thing has done so much for the industrial side of Wichita.

The Beacon building enterprise, although a private one, was started in the Chamber of Commerce by Chamber of Commerce men. This "tallest building in Kansas" is strictly a home enterprise and was built by home capital. Mr. Henry J. Ellen, editor of the Beacon and prime mover in the enterprise, was vice-president at the time he started the building company.

The Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway, organized and managed by O. A. Boyle while president of the club, is another instance of the really great and beneficial enterprises having their inception in the minds of Chamber of Commerce men, and being fashioned from the first crude idea into a splendid realization by them. The few instances given will show the character of the Chamber of Commerce and its work for Wichita. They will also serve to show the great value to any city of an organization of this kind as a clearing house of civic and commercial ideas.

Nothing is too large and nothing is too small to elicit the interest of the Wichita Chamber of Commerce. In fact, it is a most democratic body, whose sole object is to be of the greatest use possible to the largest number of Wichita citizens. In a

nutshell, the Chamber of Commerce is an institution that is ready to espouse the cause of any person or any company or any institution when their interests are identical with the growth and prosperity of Wichita. "Watch Wichita win" is the motto of the Chamber of Commerce and no institution in the city is doing more to "help Wichita win."

The Chamber of Commerce is composed of 350 members, who are mostly engaged in the retail business establishments. However, there are many bankers, lawyers, physicians and manufacturers numbered among the membership. The clubrooms at 133 North Market street form a most popular meeting place for business men, for committees, small business gatherings, luncheons and banquets. It will move into the new Beacon building in the fall. Ten years ago the Wichita Chamber of Commerce was a rather small and insignificant institution. At times it did efficient work in securing freight rate adjustments, but it was not a very lively factor in Wichita commercial life. But this apathy was thrown off and the club began to spread out, to gather in new, vigorous members and to liven up the city. The gloomy quarters in the basement of the city hall were given up and roomy club parlors secured in North Market street. The lunch and game room features were added, while the membership immediately swelled. Not only that, but the scope of the organization was enlarged and much was done for the good of the city.

Popular open meetings are held for the club membership from time to time during the winter months. At these meetings subjects of general interest to the city are discussed. Recently the Chamber of Commerce took the initiative step to find out the physical valuation of the city water plant. When there was a campaign to vote bonds for a new auditorium and a new high school the Chamber of Commerce championed the causes valiantly. Many new factories and other industries have come to Wichita from other places during the past few years through the influence and assistance of the Chamber of Commerce. Much literature and thousands of letters, telling of the city's advantages, are mailed out every year by the club secretary. At the head of this live commercial organization is O. A. Boyle, one of the foremost boosters of the city. Mr. Boyle was elected president of the club at the beginning of this year. During the last half of 1909 Mr. Boyle was secretary of the Chamber.

John L. Stingley, secretary of the club, is another "live wire."

Mr. Stingley is working all the time and in four months of his incumbency he has accomplished many important tasks. The other officers of the Chamber of Commerce are: Paul Brown, vice-president, and V. H. Branch, treasurer. The board of directors meets regularly every month for the consideration of all sorts of business. Frequently there are called meetings to meet an emergency. The directors are: E. T. Battin, R. E. Bird, O. A. Boyle, V. H. Branch, Paul Brown, R. B. Campbell, H. W. Darling, T. M. Deal, G. M. Dickson, J. H. Graham, C. H. Matson, J. N. Haymaker, R. L. Holmes, John Kelley, Henry Lassen, M. A. McClellan, M. M. Murdock, Dr. E. M. Palmer, O. A. Rorabaugh, H. J. Roetzel, W. T. Rouse, W. E. Stanley, J. L. Stingley, A. Van Zandt and Otto Weiss. The executive committee is composed of the following men: G. M. Dickson, W. F. McCullough, John L. Stingley, M. M. Murdock and R. L. Holmes.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

By

J. N. HAYMAKER.

The Chamber of Commerce is one of the newer institutions of Wichita, of which its members and the city at large are justly proud.

It was organized in the year 1901 and was the outgrowth of a party of men who had at heart both the material and moral good of the city. They desired not only a greater Wichita, but a better Wichita. Not only a greater and better Wichita, but a closer bond of companionship and fellowship among those who were striving to make it greater and better. With these ends in view commodious and accessible quarters were procured at the city building and afterward at No. 133 North Market street. The rooms are furnished in a neat and attractive manner at an expense of several thousand dollars; a good cafe was established; the spirit and purpose of the organization was made known to the public, and the enterprise was launched under favorable auspices. The response was immediate. Within one month from its opening it had 250 members. Its presidents have been successively, C. L. Davidson, J. H. Stewart, J. E. Howard, I. N. Hockaday, George M. Dickson and O. A. Boyle. Its prime object

as indicated by its name is the promotion of the commerce, growth and advancement of the city. To this end its committees have been organized and its energies in a large measure directed. Many and notable have been the efforts made by this body for the securing of new enterprises for Wichita, the extension of its trade through tributary territory, the securing of advantages to business already established in the way of more favorable freight rates, and others of like kind, and many have been the successes achieved. Not a forward step has been taken by our city along the line of business growth and development without its help, encouragement and good will, but, as before indicated, its aims and purposes have not been material and mercenary only; they have been moral and social as well.

Ever since its organization the Chamber of Commerce has been the business-social center, or the social-business center of the city. Scarcely a week has passed without a banquet of some kind within its hospitable walls. Business organizations of various kinds looking toward the advancement and promotion of business interests; public organizations of various kinds looking toward municipal growth and improvement; civic organizations of various sorts looking toward the general good of our people, city and state, all have been welcomed here and all have availed themselves of its generous hospitality, excellent cuisine, sympathetic atmosphere and friendly help. It has been the civic center from which has radiated good influences in every direction.

The spirit and genius of the organization is truly democratic. While it numbers among its members many of the most substantial business men of the city, yet the young man of character and aspiration is just as welcome to its membership as the wealthiest man in the city, and receives the same consideration. It recognizes the truth that, "The rank is but the guinea's stamp, a man's a man for a' that." While liquors have always been strictly barred from its portals and liquid conviviality is unknown, yet innocent games are encouraged, such as chess, checkers, pool and billiards, and a feeling of comradeship and good fellowship characterizes its members from the oldest to the youngest, from the richest to the poorest. O. A. Boyle, one of the most progressive and successful of Wichita's young business men, is its efficient president and John Stingley its popular secretary.

Its present condition is most flourishing. It is out of debt, has money in the treasury and has taken in about seventy-five

new members during the present year. The outlook for the future is most encouraging. On October 1 it will move to its new location, on the tenth floor of the Beacon building, and a more beautiful, more sightly, better arranged and more appropriate location could scarcely be obtained or desired. Its aims for the future are in keeping with its high and beautiful location: to make Wichita ever a bigger and better city and its members bigger, better and happier men.

About October 1, 1910, the Wichita Chamber of Commerce, the junior commercial body of Wichita, moved to their splendid new quarters in the Beacon block on South Main street. This club has accomplished great good for the town since the organization of the same, and has promoted and assisted many of the best enterprises of the town. The Wichita Chamber of Commerce has rented large and very spacious quarters on the tenth floor of the new Beacon block and their lease runs for a term of years.

On the evening of September 23 they had their last rally in the old quarters. A delightful banquet was served to about 200 men. A splendid spirit of harmony prevailed, an all-around talk-fest was indulged in, and the underlying current was that the town was "safe and sane." The future was discussed and the past was reviewed. The ways and means committee reported that it would take in the neighborhood of \$1,600 to move the club to the new quarters and start all matters off right. This amount was raised at this meeting in half an hour, a large number of those present subscribing \$25 each. The speeches made and the spirit of the club as manifested showed a most hopeful outlook for the future of Wichita.—Editor.

CHAPTER V.

BOARD OF TRADE AND HOW IT GREW.

Wichita has not achieved many things greater than her present board of trade in her thirty years' struggle for municipal recognition. With a grain market that is known as one of the best in the Southwest and a board of trade made up of live, hustling business men who get what they go after, it is not at all surprising that Wichita is a blacker speck on the grain map than many cities larger than she. The board of trade is one of the liveliest business organizations in Wichita today. In the line of city pushing and advertising it has done its share in giving Wichita the reputation of the coming city of the great Southwest.

The president of the board is W. F. McCullough, of the McCullough Grain Company. This is Mr. McCullough's second term in this capacity, his first term being so satisfactory to the board that the members demanded his appearance in the dictatorial chair for the second time. Mr. McCullough occupies about the same place among Kansas grain dealers that Browning did among the poets of the English tongue—the highest. If there is anything that the board of trade needs for the betterment of the grain business, Mr. McCullough is up night and day seeing that this is brought to pass. That's the sort of a man that is at the head of the Wichita board of trade, a dynamic, high-tension personality who always lands with both feet fair and square. The vice-presidency is filled by C. M. Jackman, of the Kansas Milling Company, the largest mill and elevator company in the Southwest. He is an able abettor in every good movement for the grain industry and loves his "profession."

The "Old Ironsides" of the official group is J. S. McCaulay. Always noted for his reticence—unless it is a rate discussion, then, say, you ought to see him declaim—he is lowering his record every year for saying less and is learning more about the rate question. Of course, every one will grant that there are numerous experts in Wichita who take special delight in learn-

ing everything they can about certain lines, but it is safe to say that such an expert in the rate business as Mr. McCaulay never walked across the new creosote pavement around the Sedgwick block. Whether it is his position of secretary, which he has had for several terms, that gives him this prying rate mind it cannot be authoritatively stated, but such is the fact. Mr. McCaulay is one of the first fourteen charter members and has been in the grain business in Wichita for more than twenty years.

The directors of the organization are C. K. Nevling, W. R. Watson, F. C. Dymock, C. R. Howard, A. R. Clark, J. W. Craig and W. L. Scott. The board is full on membership now. All of the fifty memberships have been disposed of, the last charter membership being sold a little over a year ago. If a person desires a membership he has to buy it directly from the owner and consequently the price of these little privileges to do business with the Wichita grain men are costing a deal more than they used to. A membership now costs a person \$1,000. Seven years ago when the board of trade thrust its puny little self into the grain business in a half-hearted attempt to grow, memberships had difficulty in selling at \$25. These memberships have become things of really great commercial value now and buying and selling them is a lucrative business. The habitat of the grain men and the lair of the board of trade is the Sedgwick block. This historic pile has gained fadeless laurels by being the home of so many bulls and bears. On the first floor everything is right and proper and one would naturally suppose that it is an ordinary office building, but hist! the second floor is a complete giveaway. From the moment you set foot on the second floor landing and hear the sound of manly voices shouting, you know that you have struck some sort of a combination. The second floor of the structure is nothing but grain offices, with the exception of one or two insurance offices, which manage to exist in some unexplainable way through the turmoil. It is the same way on the third floor. On you go to the fourth story and yet you find offices, yet not quite so many. When the fifth story is reached you strike the limit of the grain offices and also the limit of the building's height. It is one vast honeycomb of live, busy grain men who think the grain business, next to baseball, is the greatest thing in the world.

The firms who have offices in this building and are members of the board of trade are: Anderson-Koch Grain Company, Henry

Probst Commission Company, David Heenan and Company, Dazey-Moore Grain Company, Stevens-Scott, Hall Baker, Roth Grain Company, A. R. Clark Grain Company, McCullough Grain Company, G. S. Barnes Jr. Grain Company, W. T. McCaulay Grain Company, Kolp Grain Company, Independent Grain Company, Western Grain Company, Kaufman-Boyle Grain Company, J. R. Williams, James Dobbs, Hastings Grain Company, Kelly Bros. Grain Company, Alvin Harbour Grain Company, H. C. Thompson Grain Company, Empire Grain Company, Woodside Smith Grain Company, United Grain & Commission Company, Tri-State Grain Company, Nevling Grain & Elevator Company, Arkansas Valley Grain Company, Norris and Company, Millers Grain Company, Kemper Grain Company, B. C. Christopher Grain Company, E. M. Elkins Grain Company, J. R. Harold Grain Company, Gorvin Grain Company and the Brooking Company. The following milling and elevator companies are members of the Wichita board of trade: Kansas Milling Company, Red Star Milling & Elevator Company, Howard Milling Company, Imboden Milling Company, Watson Milling Company.

The Wichita board of trade is responsible for the great improvement in Wichita as a grain center. Prior to 1900 Wichita as a grain center did not cut a very big figure. In 1906, two years after the board had been organized, 10,875 cars of grain were handled by members of the board of trade; in 1907, 16,575 cars; in 1908, 24,326 cars. The number of cars handled during 1909 is estimated at 26,758. This is more than doubling the carload receipts in four years. This is certainly going some, but it is the normal gait of the Wichita board of trade. One-third of these receipts was wheat. This shows clearly enough that the Wichita market is securing a great deal of wheat from this, the richest wheat growing section in the world.

Wichita always has been a grain market. Even during the time of the Indian it was the camping spot for him and the feeds were made here. Later on when the trading post was started up on Chisholm creek it was the halting place for the prairie schooners as they crawled westward over the dreary plain lands. With the advent of the Santa Fe trail and its tributary trail from Texas, through Wichita northward, Wichita became a market. In a few years, by reason of the hundreds and hundreds of wagon trains which made this city the terminus of their trip, it became known as the greatest wagon market in the world. When the

Santa Fe railroad was put in, wagon loads of grain were hauled from points sixty miles distant from Wichita. The grain was ground, loaded and shipped to the North. By reason of this Wichita secured a very wide reputation as a center of some importance. Later when the Frisco system came, the ground grain was loaded and shipped to St. Louis, Mo. Old-timers can easily recall the long rows of grain wagons which came lumbering to Wichita from every direction, piled high with grain. At this time when a few of the citizens of the then rather diminutive town had aspirations for a New York on the Western plains, a bunch of them got together and founded what was called the Wichita board of trade. Now this wasn't any more of a board of trade than a quartette is an orchestra, yet it did good work for the town. It was more of a commercial club than anything else and did good work while it lasted, but after a brief existence—kersmash it went.

The grain business continued to pick up, new firms came in, new capital came in, and a new tone was given to the market. Along at the close of the 90's men in the grain business knew that the point to either put up a fight for the grain center of the Southwest or to lose out entirely had been reached. There was nothing of the coward in these early men and the matter of the grain organization was talked of seriously. The twentieth century dawned, yet no definite arrangements had been made, although favor for this new project had grown. The promoters of this new commercial entity met in 1902 and made plans for the arranging of shares and operation of an organization known as the Wichita board of trade. In 1903 the first fourteen shares of the fifty shares of stock were sold for \$25 per share.

CHAPTER VI.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

By

CHARLES H. SMYTH.

The Wichita Commercial Club had its origin in the Coronado Club in 1897. A few Wichita business men met at the home of J. H. Black, to talk over the need for a commercial organization. There were present at that meeting Charles Aylesbury, Charles G. Cohn, Mr. Wright and several others. They discussed the necessity of a commercial club for the purpose of working unitedly and intelligently for the good of the town. These gentlemen arrived at the conclusion that a meeting of business men of the city should be called and invitations were issued to meet at the Coronado clubrooms, which at this time was a social organization with clubrooms in the old Levy home, corner of Second and Topeka. The meeting proved to be one of the best attended and enthusiastic ever held in Wichita, and an organization was perfected. Directors were elected who at their first meeting elected as their president Charles G. Cohn, and the Coronado Club went out of existence and merged with the Commercial Club. Mr. Cohn served as president ten years; his successors in office were O. P. Taylor for one year, Frank C. Wood for two years, and Charles H. Smyth, the present incumbent, for two years. His term of office expires January, 1911. His assistants are H. E. Case, vice-president; V. H. Branch, treasurer; John McGinnis, secretary. What has the Commercial Club done for Wichita? Very much. One of the first things after organization that demanded their attention was the grain and milling business. A Mr. Caldwell, with whom was associated Mr. Stevens now in the city, was invited to come to Wichita from Louisville, Ky. In a short time \$100,000 was subscribed by the adjacent towns and city. Political and financial conditions in the country at that time elim-

inated Mr. Caldwell from the movement, nevertheless this was the beginning of our enormous elevator and milling interests. The Watson Milling Company and the Kansas Milling Company were both brought to Wichita by the Commercial Club.

The directors about this time found that something must be done to encourage the packing industry and it brought about the opening of the old Whitaker plant, that had lain idle a long time, by John Cudahy. The Dold packing plant was burned out and had not the Commercial Club gotten busy with encouragement the plant would never have been rebuilt. Necessarily, the club to a wonderful degree is responsible and proud of the present day packing industries and stock yards. The Orient railway came knocking at our doors. The Commercial Club immediately interested itself, raised money and assisted Mr. Stillwell in every possible manner. Through appeals and assistance financially, the great shops now under construction, to eventually cost \$1,250,000 and employ 2,700 men, were made possible. The present building when completed will cost \$400,000 and employ five to eight hundred mechanics and laborers. About February 1, 1911, the shops will be opened for work. Among many other things done by the club, it has encouraged and helped the interurban and the proposed extension of the Midland Valley railway from Arkansas City to McPherson, Kan., to a connection with the great Union Pacific. It has pushed the Peerless Prophets jubilee that brings so many persons to Wichita once a year; it has organized the Trade Trip organization that does so much to advertise Wichita. It originated the transportation bureau that has done so much in the way of reduced rates to and from Wichita and improved train service, and has brought many minor manufacturing concerns that have located with us. You will find at the head of all these strong business men and city builders, and every one a member of the Commercial Club.

The latest and crowning accomplishment will be the completion of a hundred thousand dollar clubhouse at the corner of Market and First streets. In July, 1908, the directors had a meeting to determine what should be done in relation to new clubhouse quarters, as their lease with the National Bank of Commerce on the present clubrooms had expired. Mr. Sim made a proposal to fit up rooms in his new building. While discussing this proposal Judge Dale asked, "Why not build a new club and get a home of our own?" The suggestion of a new

clubhouse was all that was needed. It was known that the old Baptist church property was for sale and on instructions from the directors to purchase the same H. J. Hagny in less than thirty minutes returned from the Kansas National Bank and advised the gentlemen he had purchased the property through Mr. Chandler, a member of the Baptist church board. The building is 150x140 feet, five stories and basement. On the first floor are the ladies' reception and dining rooms, lounging room, living room and offices. On the second floor are the dining rooms and kitchen. On the third floor, billiards and games. On the fourth and fifth floors are sleeping rooms. On the roster of the Commercial Club are the names of a good many men who have done and are doing things for Wichita. Among them are Charles Aylesbury, F. A. Amsden, O. A. Boyle, J. H. Black, C. H. Brooks, V. H. Branch, Tom Blodgett, C. M. Beachy, H. E. Case, Charles G. Cohn, L. W. Clapp, Henry Comley, D. M. Dale, C. L. Davidson, J. O. Davidson, W. C. Edwards, T. G. Fitch, Dean Gordon, P. V. Heally, J. D. Houston, Dr. J. Z. Hoffman, R. L. Holmes, H. J. Hagny, Ben Eaton, W. P. Innes, E. B. Jewett, Thomas P. Kelso, Henry Lassen, M. M. Murdock, R. L. Millison, B. F. McLean, L. S. Naftzger, John L. Powell, George L. Pratt, Charles H. Smyth, J. H. Stewart, C. W. Southward, Henry Wallenstein, H. V. Wheeler, H. J. Allen and others.

HOME OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

No city ever grew largely without the aid of a strong commercial organization. The modern city that outstrips her neighbors is not always the one of favored location and rich surrounding territory. Wichita prizes its commercial club. It is the boosters within a city that makes it great. It is the aggressive, never-give-up spirit of the merchants, the jobbers and the manufacturers which brings a city into the limelight before the eyes of the world. From the beginning Wichita had some sort of a commercial organization. There were not always handsome parlors, equipped with tables for games and easy chairs for reading. The early day commercial organizations held their meetings in wooden shacks, where the members sat on nail kegs and cracker boxes. But the spirit of acquisition was there in the tiny wooden quarters just as it now permeates the atmosphere about the clubrooms of any of the three Wichita commercial organizations today. It

is the same spirit that is now prompting the business men of the city to reach out for new trade by means of a trade extension excursion. Forty years ago Wichita was nothing. Today it is a city of about 60,000 inhabitants, growing at the rate of 5,000 to 10,000 persons each year. New industries of all sorts, brought in through the influence and assistance of the commercial organizations, are largely responsible for this rapid increase in population.

Foremost among the Wichita commercial organizations is the Wichita Commercial Club. It is an institution builded of big men, who play for big stakes and usually win. There was never a really big job tackled by the city of Wichita in which the Commercial Club failed to take an active part. It was twenty-one years ago that the old Coronado Club was organized. It was not prompted by any commercial instinct. In fact, it was to be a purely social club, where the "big boom" sufferers might while away a few hours of idle time each day. But no true Wichitan ever had time to waste in the comfortable luxury of a social clubhouse. There were some who were not completely winded by the hard jolt landed by the bursting of the boom. And these, after a few years of listless existence, began to awaken and to regain something of the old-time spirit, which went after things at the drop of the hat, and brought them home on broad, triumphant shoulders.

The Wichita Commercial Club was the result of this unrest. In 1896 the Coronado Club went out of existence and a live, hustling commercial organization was formed. Years passed and the club grew, taking the city along with it. In 1904 the old Levy home at the corner of First street and Topeka avenue became too small for the organization. At that time the National Bank of Commerce was planning to build a new home, so the Commercial Club engaged the two upper floors of the new building. When the club entered this new home six years ago it had less than 200 members. The new quarters were considered commodious and beautiful. But the city began to grow faster than in any previous period of her history and the membership of the club increased by large bounds. A new modern club building was being talked of before the organization had worn the new off its present quarters. A year ago plans for the new clubhouse were commenced. A fine location was secured on the northeast corner of First and Market streets. On that site is

being builded a five-story, fireproof building, which, when fully equipped, will be the finest clubhouse in the state.

Within this year the Commercial Club will occupy its new home. As it steps out of the old shell into new raiment it will likewise broaden and lengthen to fill a greater need. For there was never a time in the history of the city when the sinew and courage of a strong commercial club was needed more than at this time. The membership of the club now approaches 400. The officers and directors are strong, vigorous business men who have succeeded in spite of adversity and builded a city that is the pride of Kansas and the metropolis of the Southwest. These men are: Charles H. Smyth, president; Howard E. Case, vice-president; V. H. Branch, treasurer; John McGinnis, secretary.

The directors are: Frank C. Wood, L. W. Clapp, H. J. Hagny, W. P. Innes, C. L. Davidson, F. A. Amsden, V. H. Branch, J. O. Davidson, Henry Lassen, C. W. Southward, C. H. Brooks, H. C. Case, Charles G. Cohn, T. G. Fitch and Charles H. Smyth.

THE WEST WICHITA COMMERCIAL LEAGUE.

By

J. B. COVAULT, SECRETARY.

The youngster among the Wichita commercial organizations is the West Wichita Commercial League. It is an infant in age, but a good husky fellow in strength and size. It is distinctly a west side institution, but has never yet refused to come over the river to help boost Greater Wichita. The West Wichita Commercial League is less than two years old. In one year it reached a membership of 130. Now there are 160 names on the club's roster. Roomy club quarters are maintained at 1005 West Douglas avenue. Enthusiastic meetings of the members are held here every month. Things of vital interest to the west side are the chief business of the club, but nothing of city-wide importance is overlooked by the league's active membership.

To the West Wichita Commercial League goes the credit for landing the largest manufacturing institution coming to Wichita in a good many years. This factory, secured only two months ago, is the American Paper Manufacturing Company. This concern has secured ground in the northwestern section of the west side and will erect a half-million-dollar strawboard plant during

the coming twelvemonth. The league's committee on new industries worked long hours and burned the midnight oil many nights in landing this big institution. Public-spirited men of the league donated their services and finally, when a suitable site could not be found at a reasonable price three men donated eighteen acres of their own land to make sure of the mill. Since its organization in June of 1908 the West Wichita Commercial League has done much to enliven the civic pride of that section. Streets are cleaner and better kept; yards are neater and more attractive; interest in making the west side a cleaner and more beautiful place in which to live has increased tenfold through the efforts of the league. Aside from the big paper mill the club has landed several other business institutions for the west side during the past year. The officers are constantly on the lookout for opportunities and few get by them. At recent meetings there was much interest shown in the Orient bond election and every member of the club worked hard for the passage of these and the Arkansas Valley Interurban bonds.

"More car lines, more pavement and more factories" is the slogan of the league for the coming year. West Wichita has grown marvelously during the past five years and the facilities of a few years ago have been outgrown. Several miles of new paving have already been contracted for and two car line extensions are in prospect for the next few months. With the completion of the \$100,000 concrete bridge across the Arkansas river, giving West Wichita better connection with the east side; with the extension of the street railway from Seneca on West Douglas to the city limits on the west; with her half score of churches, her high elevation and general lay of the land on which she stands, West Wichita is destined to be the attractive place to the future homeseeker in Greater Wichita. West Wichita has installed a sewerage system which will add greatly to its sanitary condition. There are many other things of interest concerning West Wichita about which we would like to speak, but it is impossible for us to do so at this time. We would suggest that you write the secretary of the West Wichita Commercial League, telling him what you want and he will put you in touch with the proper committee that will give you the desired information. Will say, however, if you are looking for a location to engage in the manufacture of an article of some kind, or if you are looking for a place for a home where you can spend the remainder of

your days in peace and ease, come to Wichita and you will find just what you want in West Wichita, the garden spot of the Queen City of the Southwest.

The officers of the league, who are giving their time and energies to make the city grow at capacity speed, are: W. S. Hadley, president; William McKnight, vice-president; J. N. Covault, secretary; G. T. Riley, treasurer. A strong board of directors stands behind these officers ready to lend its assistance when necessary. The directors are: John Harts, James Murray, Fred Farmer, Wallace C. Kemp, Jesse L. Leland, George Cole, W. E. Davis, Charles T. Lindsay, O. Martinson, L. F. Means, H. Shapcott and H. D. Cottman.

CHAPTER VII.

THE WICHITA WATER COMPANY.

The people of Wichita may be assured that when the present improvements are completed that they will have one of the most up-to-date water systems in the country, and not only will they be guaranteed the purest water for drinking and domestic purposes, but an ample supply for fire protection. During the past year the American Water Works and Guarantee Company, owners of the Wichita plant, have expended an enormous sum of money, the greatest in the history of the company, on extensions, reinforcing lines and other improvements. An entire new station has been built. A new 100-foot brick stack has been added, in addition to two 250-horsepower boilers. Two new 5,000,000-gallon pumping engines have been installed, bringing the present pumping capacity of the plant up to 20,000,000 gallons per day. The present well system is also being thoroughly overhauled and many new wells are being added.

In addition to the foregoing, more than twenty-five miles of cast iron mains, the greater part of which will be reinforcing lines of large diameter, have been authorized and are being laid. A new twelve-inch reinforcing line is being laid north of the pumping station into the Riverside district. Pipe is on the ground for reinforcing line up Waco avenue to the stock yards and packing houses. Probably the most important reinforcing line that is to be put in will be an additional sixteen-inch main from the station direct to the heart of the business district; this in addition to many miles of smaller lines which will be put in to reach the residences in outlying districts, all of which will be properly reinforced. As a result of the foregoing mentioned improvements the city of Wichita may boast of having one of the most complete water works systems in the western country, and this opinion is supported by the statement of several expert water works engineers, who recently visited the plant and who have no interests in it whatever. They pronounced it one of the

most up-to-date systems in the world, and one that is now being adopted by different water companies who are desirous of supplying their patrons with a pure supply of water. The water itself comes from a series of large cylinders which are sunk beneath the bed of the Big Arkansas river to a depth of from forty to forty-five feet. By means of steam pressure all the sand is forced out of these cylinders and the water is permitted to flow through the deep body of gravel which remains, thus affording one of the purest water supplies to be found anywhere.

The water from these cylinders is syphoned by vacuum pumps into a large cement receiving reservoir, where the water is thoroughly aerated before passing into the mains of the city. This is in addition to the company taking every known precaution to guard against contamination of the city water supply, as it is a well-known fact that many of the most malignant germs cannot exist in water thoroughly aerated. The cement receiving reservoir, constructed for this purpose, is one of the most important of the company's recent improvements. It is thirty-three feet deep and twenty-five feet in diameter and is built of brick, laid in cement. The walls of this reservoir are three feet thick at the base and about two feet thick at the top and are cemented thoroughly to prevent any surface water getting into it. By means of vacuum pumps the water from the cylinders or wells is emptied into this reservoir, where it is kept at just the water level in the ground. From this receiving reservoir the large pumps force the water through the mains to all parts of the city. So carefully adjusted is this system that not a ripple disturbs the surface of the water in the reservoir, though thousands of gallons of water are discharged into and pumped out of it every minute. Some idea may be had of the purity of this water when one is given a chance to look down into it. Although it stands twenty feet deep in the reservoir, it does not look to be more than three feet deep, and one could easily see a nickel on the cement bottom, so clear is the water. No sediment or filth of any kind can find its way into this reservoir. This differs from the reservoirs in some cities where the water is retained in great receptacles to settle before it is pumped into the mains and where masses of green scum and moss cover the top of the water, thus forming a breeding place for all kinds of disease germs. As the source from which the water is drawn, namely, the underflow of the Arkansas valley, is six or eight miles wide and hundreds of miles in

length, it is plain to see that it is inexhaustible, and in case more water is needed at any time all the company would need to do would be to sink more cylinders by which to draw from the underflow. Another evidence of the great care exercised by the water company to guard against any possible filth or contamination to the water used is that it owns the entire island on which the pumping station is situated. Originally there were two channels of the river, but now there is only one in which the water runs, but the water company's holding is commonly spoken of as the island. The strip of ground is forty rods or more in width and about a mile long and no stock or offal of any kind is allowed upon it. Thus every possible safeguard has been provided against any impurities in the water which is offered to the people of Wichita for their use. This water is frequently analyzed and has always been found to be of excellent quality.

The last analysis made by W. E. Bunker, an expert bacteriologist, assisted by Dr. F. H. Slayton, city physician, shows the water absolutely pure and safe for drinking purposes. It certainly ought to be a source of satisfaction to the people of Wichita, as it is to the water works company, that they have a system so well equipped and a supply of water so pure. There are two requisites for an ideal water supply that are always to be sought. The first is absolutely pure water as a reasonable guarantee of health and an abundant supply to insure protection against fires. No city can boast of anything more desirable for the upbuilding and advertisement of its advantages than an adequate and pure water supply and no citizen can afford to disparage such an advantage for political or other purposes. A town may have mills and other great industries, but if they are at the mercy of the flames and the workmen who are employed in them are compelled to use impure water it is a dangerous place to live. Give the people plenty of pure water, such as they are assured here in Wichita, and the saving in doctor's bills and undertaker's charges alone would be an argument in its favor. The Wichita Water Company has nothing to cover up. It invites the most rigid and critical examination of its system and water supply, and the public is especially invited to visit the station, where the engineer in charge will take pleasure in showing visitors over the plant and explaining everything in detail. Every detail of the water system is now and has been for twenty years under the personal supervision of Mr. Fred D. Aley, the

superintendent. Having lived in Wichita from his boyhood, Mr. Aley knows what his city needs, and as a resident and a large taxpayer he feels that he has a personal interest in the matter aside from any pecuniary interest as superintendent. This has given him a sense of pride in trying to make the Wichita water system the best in the West, and the company reposing the utmost confidence in his judgment and having faith in the future of the city has anticipated the city's needs by the present extensive improvements.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE WICHITA LAND OFFICE.

ITS EARLY HISTORY—ITS OFFICERS, CLERKS AND ATTORNEYS.

By

JUDGE JAMES L. DYER.

The local land office of the United States at Wichita, Kan., embraced all the tract of land bounded on the north by the fourth standard parallel south, on the east by guide meridian east of the sixth principal meridian, on the west by the boundary line between Colorado and Kansas, on the south by the south boundary line of the state of Kansas.

The lands in this boundary were of three classes: First, a narrow strip of land known as the Cherokee Strip, varying from three and one-half miles on the east to one-half mile in width on the west, situated at the extreme south of the state.

Second—A fifty-mile strip known as the Osage Trust and Diminished Reserve lands, lying directly north of the Cherokee Strip and extending from the east boundary of said land district to the 100° west longitude; and

Third—The remainder of said land district was unoffered lands subject to pre-emption settlement. Homestead and timber culture acts under the laws governing the public lands of the United States.

The lands in the Cherokee Strip were subject to sale to actual settlers, without regard to time the settler occupied said land, in quantities in compact form not exceeding 160 acres to one actual settler at \$1.25 per acre.

The Osage Trust and Diminished Reserve lands were subject to sale to actual settlers for the sum of \$1.25 per acre in tracts not exceeding 160 acres in compact form under the act of July 1, 1870.

The land office at Wichita was known as the Arkansas Land District, and was first located at Augusta, Kan., but as immigration pushed west, the settlers driving before them the buffalo and coyote, it became necessary for the accommodation of the large body of people to change the location, and hence in March, 1872, the land office was removed from Augusta to Wichita, and from that time it took the name of the Wichita Land Office of the United States, retaining the same boundary until 1874, when it was subdivided and other land offices established west of range ten west of the 6° principal meridian.

On May 9, 1872, congress passed an act (see 2283 R. S.) requiring that the Osage Trust and Diminished Reserve lands in the state of Kansas, excepting the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections in each township, be subject to disposal for cash only to actual settlers in quantities not exceeding 160 acres in compact form, in accordance with the general principles of the pre-emption laws under the direction of the commissioner of the General Land Office, but that settlers must make proof of settlement, occupancy and cultivation within one year from date of settlement. The moneys derived from the sale of these lands were to be held in trust for the Osage nation after deducting the actual expenses of sale of said lands. The Osage Indians realized from the sale of these lands in the Wichita district over \$4,000,000.

The officers of a local land office consist of a registrar and receiver, appointed by the President, holding their offices for four years but subject to removal at the wish of the President.

The registrar receives all applications and jointly with the receiver passes upon the legality of all applications and all proofs presented to the local office, and determines the rights of adverse claimants to the same tract of land. In case of disagreement between registrar and receiver the case is referred to the honorable commissioner of the General Land Office.

The receiver in addition to the foregoing duties must receive all moneys paid to the local office and must deposit the same in some United States depository under direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The first registrar of the Wichita land district was A. C. Aken, who was appointed while the office was at Augusta, and the first receiver was W. A. Shannon. Both came to Wichita with the office in March, 1872. Mr. Aken was succeeded as registrar

by W. T. Jenkins, and Mr. Shannon was succeeded as receiver by J. C. Redfield, formerly of Humboldt, Kan., now dead.

The offices of registrar and receiver in those days grew high up on the political tree, and the one having the longest and strongest pole got the persimmon. Although appointed for four years, yet if the officers happened to be for the wrong man for congress or for the United States senate his resignation was soon demanded and a favorite was selected to succeed him, in accordance with the old Jacksonian policy, "To the victor belongs the spoils." And thus Mr. Jenkins, registrar, was not permitted to hold out his full term, but in 1875 had to give way to the Hon. H. L. Taylor. J. C. Redfield was permitted to hold his full four years' term, having so trimmed his sails, politically, and having been such an efficient officer that no one was able to oust him from his office.

H. L. Taylor was forced to give way before the expiration of his term of office to the Hon. Richard L. Walker in 1879. Colonel Taylor was lieutenant-colonel of the Sixty-eighth Illinois Infantry and was provost marshal at Alexandria, Va., where the regiment was encamped in the summer of 1862. He remained in Wichita and held other offices of trust and died an honored citizen in the summer of 1906 at the age of seventy-two.

J. C. Redfield lived in Wichita after retiring from the office of receiver and was manager of the G. G. Smith dry goods store at this place. He was also county commissioner for several years. He died in 1904 at the age of seventy-four years. All who knew Mr. Redfield loved him for his sterling worth.

Mr. Redfield was succeeded in December, 1876, by James L. Dyer as receiver, who held the position of receiver of this office until November, 1885.

Richard L. Walker, who succeeded H. L. Taylor as registrar, was prior to that time sheriff of Cowly county, Kansas, and held the office of registrar one full term, and was reappointed for a second term. Then he had to fall by the wayside on account of Cleveland's election. He was captain of Company A, Nineteenth Ohio Infantry, and had a splendid record as a soldier. He removed from here and afterwards was United States marshal for the district of Kansas. He was a jolly good fellow and counted a great politician, but has been gathered to his fathers many years ago in the prime of his vigorous life and manhood.

James L. Dyer, who came here in April, 1872, is at present judge of the city court of Wichita.

Walker was succeeded as registrar by the Hon. Frank Dale, who held the office as long as the pie tasted good, but when it got too poor he resigned, moved to Guthrie, Okla., where he made money at the practice of the law, and was afterwards honored by President Cleveland and made chief justice of the territory of Oklahoma. He is now a private citizen, enjoying the luxuries of a well-earned fortune at Guthrie, Okla., and a leading lawyer of the new state.

J. G. McCoy succeeded Mr. Dale as registrar and held the office until it was abolished and absorbed by the offices at Topeka and Fort Dodge.

Samuel Gilbert succeeded James L. Dyer as receiver in November, 1885, and performed the duties of the office as long as there was any pay. Then he quit and now lives in California. J. G. McCoy is now a resident of Wichita and enjoys the many friends in his declining years of an active life.

Connected with the local office were clerks and attorneys, some of whom will long be remembered in this community. W. B. Mead came here a clerk of the office from Augusta and was clerk for a long time afterward. He lived to a ripe old age. C. A. Walker came with Mr. Redfield from Humboldt and was clerk during the whole of Mr. Redfield's term. He was a very proficient clerk and afterwards was cashier of the Wichita National Bank until it suspended business. He now lives in Kansas City, Mo. Robert E. Guthrie held the position of clerk longer than any other person during the existence of the office at this place. He was one of the most efficient clerks that ever held a position in the United States Land Office. He has been clerk in several United States land offices since that time, and is now a clerk in the treasury department at Washington, D. C. Avery Ainsworth was a genial and efficient clerk, but went to Larned, Kan., and was clerk in the United States Land Office at that place for many years. Harry St. John, son of ex-Governor John P. St. John, was clerk for many years. He died several years ago in Oklahoma. J. Clifford Bentley was a most efficient clerk for two years. He is now practicing law in Kingman, Kan. John M. Lean was also a clerk for several years. His whereabouts is now unknown to us. J. P. Horton was a very efficient clerk for two

years. He went from here to Anthony, Kan., and died a few years ago. He was an old bachelor.

D. B. Emmert, formerly receiver at Humboldt, Kan., served as clerk under Mr. Walker, registrar. Dr. E. B. Allen, the first mayor of Wichita, was clerk under W. T. Jenkins.

Hon. J. F. Lanck was one of the very best land office attorneys in the country. He practiced before the Wichita office during its whole existence. He was at one time chancellor in Tennessee, after the war. He was a Union soldier. He died a few years ago. O. D. Kirk and W. W. Thomas were two excellent attorneys and practiced before the office many years. Thomas was afterwards probate judge of Sedgwick county. He now lives in California. O. D. Kirk is now probate judge of Sedgwick county, Kan., and an honored citizen of Wichita.

But few connected with the land office at an early day now live, and their names are almost forgotten by the public at large. And the fact that there was once a United States land office at Wichita is almost a dream. Once it was the busiest place in the whole district, and thousands came to Wichita from the vast territory it embraced, coming with teams and remaining here for days at a time, and when one did a great business in those days it was said of him, "He does a land office business."

There were many other features connected with the land office which would interest early settlers, but the foregoing is a mere biographical sketch of its officers, clerks and attorneys and of the vast business transacted here.

Note.—Judge James L. Dyer was for many years receiver of the United States Land Office at Wichita. No man living is so competent to write its history as Judge Dyer. The location of the Government Land Office at Wichita gave the town its first impetus as a trading point.—Editor.

CHAPTER IX.

THE BANKS OF WICHITA.

By

L. S. NAFTZGER.

An authenticated history of the banks of Wichita since the founding of that city as a mere hamlet to a now thriving community, known and called the Metropolis of the Southwest, is not only important but in a commercial sense exceedingly advisable and almost indispensable.

Therefore, we have taken pains by use of records and by careful inquiry among the older business men living here since 1870, who have had business with the earlier banks, to establish beyond cavil an undisputed history of the banks of Wichita.

The Arkansas Valley Bank is often credited with being the first bank organized in Wichita, but this is not substantiated by the facts based upon authentic information, and, further, the records at the court house show that W. C. Woodman did not arrive in Wichita until the spring of 1871, when he bought out George Smith's general store, located midway on the west side of the first block on North Main street, where he erected a frame addition on the rear of the storeroom, where his family resided.

Mr. Woodman converted the northeast corner of his store with a desk behind the counter into a loan office, where money was advanced to settlers for the purpose of proving up on their claims at the rate of 5 per cent interest per month, secured by mortgage on the land, and many settlers lost their claims through this severe exaction of interest rate.

After several years of loaning the institution grew into the Arkansas Valley Bank, and failed some time in the nineties.

The Wichita Bank was really the first legitimate bank established and was opened for business in the spring of 1872 by J. C. Fraker, president; J. R. Mead, vice-president, and A. H. Gossard, cashier, and was located in the most credible frame building in the town at that time.

The building was a handsomely built frame with store front erected midway on the west side in the third block on North Main street and did an excellent business from the start, and remained in that location until the spring of 1873, when it was chartered as the First National Bank of Wichita, at that time building a splendid bank structure, still standing as an ornament to the city, on the northeast corner of Main and First streets.

The county made it a depository, and when it failed obtained title to the building and ground in lieu of the losses sustained.

The Wichita Savings Bank was next in order and was incorporated July 1, 1872, with a capital of \$100,000, one-third being paid up, and the first officers being A. W. Clark, of Leavenworth, Kan., president; Sol. H. Kohn, vice-president, and A. A. Hyde, formerly with Mr. Clark's bank at Leavenworth, cashier, and commenced business in August of the same year.

The first board of directors was completed with A. M. Clark, Sol. H. Kohn, W. A. Thomas, William Griffenstein, S. C. Johnson, H. J. Hills, N. A. English, Emil Werner and A. A. Hyde.

On October 27, 1875, M. W. Levy was elected vice-president, Mr. Clark retiring March 1, 1879, and the bank was merged into the Wichita Bank of Kohn Brothers & Co. on January 1, 1883.

The institution began business as the Wichita National Bank with Sol. Kohn, then of this city, president; A. W. Oliver, vice-president; W. M. Levy, cashier; C. A. Walker, assistant cashier. Capital, \$250,000, and in 1882 deposits were \$350,000; loans and discounts, \$150,000; cash and sight exchange, \$200,000.

This bank did a very successful business for several years, but owing to the disasters and shrinkages incident to the boom of the years 1900 and 1901 it passed into the hands of Major Ewing as receiver; finally, however, paying out its depositors in full.

The Kansas National Bank opened for business originally as the Farmers' & Merchants' Bank, and was established November 1, 1876, by H. W. Lewis as a private institution, and on September 1, 1882, was organized under the state banking law with a capital of \$25,000, the directors and officers being H. W. Lewis, president; A. A. Hyde, cashier, S. Houck, W. S. Corbett and T. H. Lynch, and subsequently nationalized as the Kansas National Bank.

The deposits during the first year were \$20,000, and in 1882 amounted to \$100,000, with discounts of \$60,000.

The organization of the national bank under its present name, the Kansas National Bank, was made on November 1, 1882, with a capital stock of \$50,000, with board of directors as follows: H. W. Lewis, J. L. Dyer, R. H. Roys, R. E. Lawrence and A. A. Hyde.

The ownership of this bank has entirely changed, but is still doing a large and profitable business in its own building located at the corner of Main street and Douglas avenue under the able and efficient management of C. Q. Chandler, president; E. E. Masterman, vice-president; J. W. Berryman, second vice-president; Elsberry Martin, cashier, and Charles Testard, assistant cashier.

It has a capital of \$100,000; surplus and undivided profits amounting to \$140,000, and has come safely through the financial storm incident to the boom, and is still one of the most solid, substantial and conservative financial institutions in the state.

The Kansas State Bank was organized December 16, 1880, with a paid up capital of \$52,000, its officers being B. Lombard, Jr., president; James L. Lombard, vice-president; L. D. Skinner, cashier, and George E. Spalton, assistant cashier.

After a year's business the bank was nationalized, but subsequently failed in 1894. Of the roster of officers of this bank only George E. Spalton remains as a resident of Wichita.

The Citizens' Bank was incorporated December 20, 1882, with a capital of \$100,000 by J. O. Davidson, S. L. Davidson, C. L. Davidson, W. E. Stanley, R. S. Cates, A. Drum and John Carpenter, and officered as follows: J. O. Davidson, president; S. L. Davidson, vice-president; C. L. Davidson, secretary, and John Derst, cashier.

The bank was opened for business at the corner of Main and Douglas, where the Kansas National Bank now operates, it having built and owned the building, and was finally merged into the Kansas National Bank.

The Bank of Commerce, a private banking institution, was established by Rodolph Hatfield and John W. Hartley in January, 1883, with a capital of \$25,000, to be increased as business demanded, and was afterwards purchased by George C. Strong and in 1887 reorganized as the **Fourth National Bank of Wichita**.

In 1892 a controlling interest was purchased by Messrs. L. S. Naftzger and J. M. Moore, and has at the present time a capital of \$200,000, with surplus and profits of \$200,000.

Mr. J. M. Moore severed his active connection with the bank

in the fall of 1908, present officers being L. S. Naftzger, president; W. R. Tucker and C. W. Brown, vice-presidents; V. H. Branch, cashier; George M. Whitney and M. C. Naftzger, assistant cashiers.

The bank is located in its own building, the handsome four-story brick structure at the corner of Market street and East Douglas avenue, and is credited with having gone through the entire boom and various financial depressions and remaining continually in business since its establishment in 1887 without ever dishonoring a check or losing an hour's business time.

The bank has been managed under a broad and exceedingly safe and conservative policy, and has always been regarded as one of the most safe and solid financial institutions in Wichita or the state of Kansas.

Note.—Since the writing of the above article Mr. Naftzger has retired from the presidency of the Fourth National Bank of Wichita. He is succeeded by Mr. Ben F. McLean, so long connected with the directorate of that bank and formerly mayor of Wichita.—Editor-in-Chief.

The West Side National Bank was established in 1887 by Robert E. Lawrence and associates, but after two years' business went into voluntary liquidation, paying its depositors in full.

The American State Bank, located at the corner of Topeka and Douglas avenues, was organized in 1890 with a capital of \$50,000, subsequently increased to \$100,000, and has at the present time, in addition to the \$100,000 capital, a surplus and profit account amounting to \$20,000. The present officers are C. E. Denton, president; M. J. Lloyd, vice-president, and J. N. Richardson, cashier.

This bank has had a very remarkable and substantial growth, and is a popular depository and enjoys the confidence of the business community.

The National Bank of Commerce was established in 1899 and now has a capital of \$100,000 and surplus of \$100,000, is under the excellent management of C. W. Carey, president; J. H. Stewart and J. H. Black, vice-presidents, and F. A. Russell, cashier.

This bank is one of the leading popular and successful banks of Wichita and was founded by A. C. Jobes, now vice-president of the First National Bank of Kansas City, Mo., and C. W. Carey and enjoys the implicit confidence of the community, having

made a remarkably strong growth and building up its business upon extreme conservatism and excellent business judgment.

The Commercial Bank, located at 143 North Main street, is a private bank having a capital of \$100,000, and is owned and operated by its president, J. A. Davison, with the assistance of E. L. Davison, cashier.

This bank is a very conservative private institution, with many friends and depositors.

The State Savings Bank, located at No. 115 East Douglas avenue, was organized by W. M. Levy and H. W. Lewis, who subsequently sold their controlling interest to Mr. J. S. Corley, now managing the bank as president with the assistance of William C. Little, vice-president; M. V. Corley, cashier, and H. U. P. Gehring, assistant cashier. Its present capital is \$25,000, and the bank is a well-established, painstaking institution with a growing business.

The Citizens' State Bank, located across the river at No. 915 West Douglas avenue, was organized in 1902, and has for its present officers W. S. Hadley, president; G. E. Outland, vice-president; W. C. Kemp, cashier, and H. C. Outland, assistant cashier.

This institution has always enjoyed the entire respect and confidence of the citizens of Wichita in general and the West Side in particular, to which location it has largely confined its growing business, constantly increasing, and building up a very large and successful business, particularly for a bank with so limited a capital, and this growing business has recently made it necessary to increase the capital from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

The National Bank of Wichita was organized by C. T. Granger, of Waukon, Iowa, and his associates, date of organization certificate being May 10, 1902, but the bank was not opened for business until in November following, owing to delay in completion of the building.

First officers were C. T. Granger, president; R. S. Granger, vice-president; George W. Robinson, cashier.

Later and in July, 1903, R. G. Granger resigned as vice-president, being succeeded by V. H. Branch, and on the following January Mr. C. W. Brown was elected president in place of C. T. Granger, resigned; George W. Robinson remaining as its cashier until he resigned on August 26, 1905, being succeeded by V. H. Branch, Mr. F. C. Sheldon, of Kansas City, being elected vice-president.

The business of the bank continued under the excellent management of C. W. Brown, president; F. C. Sheldon, vice-president, and V. H. Branch, cashier, until July 3, 1908, when the business was consolidated with the Fourth National Bank of Wichita, Mr. Brown and Mr. Branch going to the Fourth National Bank, the former as vice-president and the latter as its cashier.

The National Bank of Wichita enjoyed a successful business, and at the time of the above mentioned consolidation carried a deposit of \$600,000.

The Gold Savings State Bank, occupying the new Anchor Trust building, corner North Market and First streets, was organized in 1906 with a capital of \$25,000, and now has surplus and profits amounting to \$1,500.

This institution is under the management of H. W. Lewis, president; P. K. Lewis, vice-president, and Charles Frank, cashier.

This bank is doing a general banking and deposit business and is meeting with a steady and substantial growth.

The Stock Yards State Bank, situated at 1857 North Lawrence avenue, was organized in 1907 by W. W. Brown and his associates, F. C. Sheldon and V. H. Branch, having a capital of \$10,000.

Messrs. Sheldon and Branch subsequently sold their interests in the bank to Mr. Brown and associates, and same is now under the active and conservative management of Garrison Scott, President; George T. Cubbon, vice-president, and W. W. Brown, cashier.

This institution is located in a territory by itself, having a fine neighborhood in the center of the growing industries on North Lawrence avenue, including the packing house district, and is doing a thriving and successful business.

The Merchants State Bank, located at the corner of Emporia and Douglas avenues, was opened for business on December 10, 1906, with George W. Robinson, president; D. Heaton, vice-president, and J. A. Murphy, cashier, with a capital of \$50,000.

The bank is at the present time under the management of Charles H. Lewis, president; George Veail, vice-president, and J. W. Dice, cashier.

Mr. Robinson, who was the organizer of the bank, resigned on October 1, 1909.

Present deposits of the bank are \$315,000, and is one of the successful financial institutions of the city of Wichita.

The Wichita State Bank was organized on August 2, 1908, as



E. D. Kimball.

a savings bank only with a capital of \$25,000 and surplus of \$5,000, present officers being H. V. Wheeler, president; H. J. Hagney, vice-president; J. C. Kelly, cashier, and H. H. Dewey, secretary.

This bank does exclusively a savings bank business, and as such is rapidly growing in popular favor, and holds the faith and confidence of its customers.

The Union Stock Yards National Bank was organized in May, 1910, and opened for business in the stock yards district north of Twenty-first street and just outside the city limits of Wichita by Charles H. Brooks and his associates, and has a capital of \$50,000, with the following officers: Charles H. Brooks, president; George Theis, Jr., vice-president; F. F. Ransom, cashier, and John D. McCluer, assistant cashier.

The bank occupies a fine banking room in the Live Stock Exchange building, and will undoubtedly enjoy a successful business under its present efficient management.

We have endeavored in this resume of the banks of Wichita to show no partiality and to name them all in existence at the present writing, June, 1910, though we are informed there are several banks in contemplation, all of which, of course, cannot be included in this recital no more than we could undertake to describe the thousand or more new organizations and industries that the coming years will unfold, these forming material for a subsequent history.

It might be well to state in conclusion that during the boom of 1887 the deposits of the Wichita banks increased to about \$4,000,000, but later on and at the close of the boom and some few years subsequent thereto finally shrunk to the low level of \$437,000, and at about that time seven of the nine Wichita banks then in existence either failed or liquidated as a result of the boom, leaving the two banks, the Fourth National Bank and the Kansas National Bank, as the only solvent financial institutions of the city.

Subsequently, however, and in the last years of the century just passed, the deposits of the Wichita banks commenced to increase at a substantial rate, and later on increased very rapidly, until at the present time deposits of all the Wichita banks have reached the high figure of over \$12,000,000, showing a financial growth seldom recorded in a city the size of Wichita, and is a striking tribute to the wonderful resources of the territory sur-

rounding Wichita and the care, thrift and business sagacity of the various gentlemen now managing the twelve Wichita banks.

\$12,000,000 IN WICHITA BANKS.

According to the last official report of the condition of the eleven banks of Wichita, there was on deposit at that time about \$12,000,000, or more than an average of a million dollars each. The bank clearings of Wichita during the past year have increased in a greater ratio than those of any other city in the United States. This increase has at times run as high as 62 per cent over last year, as shown by the weekly reports sent out by the government. Of these eleven banking institutions of Wichita, three are national banks and eight are under state supervision. They are all conducted in a businesslike and conservative manner, and no legitimate banking institution in Wichita has failed in many years.

The three national banks, which have deposits aggregating nearly \$8,000,000, are the Fourth National, the Kansas National and the National Bank of Commerce. The state banks, with an aggregate in deposits of \$4,000,000 are the American State, the Wichita State, the State Savings, the Stock Yards State, the Gold Savings State, the Citizens' State, the Merchants' State and the Commercial. A new national bank has just been organized and will be ready for business soon. It will be known as the Union Stock Yards National Bank.

THE COUNTRY BANKS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY.

By

THE EDITOR.

As Sedgwick county has grown and expanded, there has gradually arisen a need of banking facilities in the various trading and shipping points in the county. This want has called into existence a number of very reliable banking institutions, located in the various towns of Sedgwick county. These banks are patronized extensively by the business men of the various communities and very generally by the farmers in the localities named.

Sedgwick City, upon the northern border of Sedgwick county,

has two banks—namely, the Farmers' State Bank, organized in 1906, with William Nightser as president, J. C. Crawford as vice-president and Charles B. Harling as cashier; this bank has a paid-up capital of \$10,000, and carries a good line of deposits; the Sedgwick State Bank, which was organized in 1894, of which C. A. Seaman is president and J. H. Hume is cashier; the capital stock of this bank is also \$10,000, fully paid up.

At Valley Center is one bank, the Valley Center State Bank, with a paid-up capital of \$10,000. W. D. Goodrich is the president, S. B. Amidon is the vice-president and J. B. Gardiner is the cashier. This bank was organized in 1901.

Kechi has the State Bank of Kechi, with L. H. Watson as president, S. B. Amidon as vice-president and E. S. Basore as cashier. This bank has a paid-up capital of \$10,000, and was organized in 1909.

Payne, Minneha and Gypsum townships have no banks, but Rockford township has a bank at Derby, called the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank, which was organized in 1907, with a paid-up capital of \$10,000. This bank is officered by S. T. Townsend as president, R. R. Goodin as vice-president and S. T. Townsend as cashier.

Mulvane, on the southern border of Sedgwick county, has two banks. The Farmers' State Bank was formed in 1906, with a paid-up capital of \$10,000. George Miller is president, J. W. Dice is vice-president and O. W. Good is cashier. Also the Mulvane State Bank, organized in 1886, with a paid-up capital stock of \$20,000. Of this bank W. C. Robinson is president and C. F. Hough is cashier.

Clearwater has two banks. The Home State Bank was organized in 1905, with a paid-up capital stock of \$10,000. A. W. Wise is president and S. M. Broomfield vice-president and cashier. The State Bank of Clearwater was organized in 1899 and has a capital stock of \$10,000. Z. H. Stevens is the president, H. M. Harrington is the vice-president and J. W. Dale is the cashier.

Viola has one bank, to-wit, the Viola State Bank, organized in 1903. This bank has a capital of \$10,000, fully paid up, and Joseph Longe is its president, Charles Dalbom its vice-president and J. E. Mathes its cashier.

Cheney has two banks, the Cheney State Bank, with John T. Hessel as its president, J. W. Weatherd as vice-president and F. Zimmerman its cashier. This bank was organized in 1889 and

has a cash capital of \$10,000, fully paid up. Also the Citizens' State Bank, organized in 1884, with a capital stock of \$15,000, fully paid up. Of this bank A. W. Sweet is the president, Odin Northcutt the vice-president and E. M. Carr the cashier.

Garden Plain has one bank called the State Bank of Garden Plain. This bank was organized in 1901, with H. F. G. Wulf as president at this time, William H. Taylor, Jr., as vice-president and G. A. Tayer as cashier. This bank also has a paid-up capital of \$10,000.

Goddard has one bank, the Goddard State Bank, with a paid-up capital of \$10,000. This bank was organized in 1907. S. L. Nolan is its president, S. L. Hutchinson its vice-president and V. A. Reece its cashier.

Mt. Hope has two banks—namely, the Farmers' State Bank, organized in 1909, with a paid-up capital of \$12,000. E. W. Jewell is president, E. C. Gortner is vice-president and H. M. Washington is cashier. Also the First National Bank of Mt. Hope, organized in 1885, with a capital stock of \$25,000, fully paid up. Of this bank J. R. Fisher is president, S. B. Amidon is vice-president and Henry Jorgenson is the cashier.

Andale has one bank, denominated the Andale State Bank, organized in 1900, with a fully paid-up capital of \$10,000. L. A. Townsend is the president, A. M. Richenberger is vice-president and E. O. Lamon is the cashier.

Colwich has one bank, the State Bank of Colwich, organized in 1885, with a capital stock of \$10,000, fully paid up. W. H. Burks is president of this bank, H. H. Hansen its vice-president and A. C. Lambe its cashier.

Bentley has one bank, organized in 1901, known as the State Bank of Bentley. This bank has a paid-up capital of \$10,000. H. H. Hansen is its president, T. J. Smith is its vice-president, C. L. Baird its cashier and Avis Baird its assistant cashier.

The country banks of Sedgwick county are regarded as uniformly safe and conservative. Their business interests are in the hands of careful and conservative men—men who have an intimate personal acquaintance with the patrons of the various banks. Bank failures are unknown in the country banks of Sedgwick county. This situation is due to two causes—first, the uniform prosperity of the county, and second, the care and fidelity of those intrusted with the management of the various institutions.

CHAPTER X.

WICHITA POSTOFFICE.

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN PERSONS REQUIRED TO GIVE US MAIL.

Streams of people going through the entrance to the big federal building, crowds working their way out through the exits—that is all the passerby sees of the enormous postal business that is conducted in Wichita every day. A patron who takes his place in line in front of the stamp window, spends a quarter for postage and drops several neatly sealed epistles into the opening marked, "Other States," thinks little of the regiment of specialists that Uncle Sam maintains behind the lobby enclosure to serve the thousands of residents of the community. But the specialists are there, a little army of them, each with a department of his own, handling letters, newspapers, magazines and mail packages of every description. Two hundred and fifteen people are employed in the Wichita postoffice every day and they are kept busy from morning until night handling and accounting for the tons of mail matter that come in and go out from the federal building during the course of a day. Their aggregate salary allowance from Uncle Sam amounts to over \$200,000 a year.

Included in this enormous postal force are the assistant postmaster, the cashier, clerks, city carriers, railroad postal clerks, janitors, drivers, special delivery messengers, and rural carriers, with Postmaster W. C. Edwards at the head of the entire organization. It is no small undertaking to organize as large a working force as that employed at the Wichita postoffice. It is still another matter to keep a large force well organized while many additions are being made in every department and the character of the work to be done is constantly growing more complex. That is what has had to be done in Wichita. During the past five years the postal force has been almost doubled in numbers and the mail requirements here are almost as difficult to meet as

those in any city in the country. No department can be closed, even temporarily, at the postoffice. No matter who is ill or absent, no matter what happens; every department must be kept going, for every department is a cog in the great machine and its work is necessary for an efficient service. The postal force must perform the task completely without a hitch, and the way the service is handled in Wichita is a splendid testimonial to the mental capacity and faithfulness of the scores of men who occupy positions in the department here. The business of the Wichita postoffice for the year ending March 31, 1910, aggregated nearly a quarter million dollars. This year it will pass the quarter million mark. The growing population, the enlargement of business enterprises here, the numerous institutions that are springing up anew in every part of the city are having a remarkable effect upon the postal business here. What is more, the process of development is only well begun. Although the Wichita postoffice now handles more mail matter than originates at any other postoffice in the State of Kansas, provision for as much more will have to be made during the next few years while Wichita is growing into a city of 100,000 people. In any event, Uncle Sam may be depended upon to keep up with the procession. A splendid building, has been erected for the accommodation of the government institutions here, the postal employes are trained in their respective lines, and the force is capable of making the enlargement that the increasing business of the city will demand from year to year.

POSTOFFICE RECORDS PROOF OF GROWTH.

Three new families are moving into Wichita every day. This is the very moderate rate placed upon the city's growth by the "new family" officials of the postoffice. This statement is backed up by figures prepared by this department of the postoffice.

This is the rate at which families are moving in at this time of the year, the slackest time of the year in the moving line. When the winter rush commences, families will come in at the rate of six or seven every day. This was the rate last year.

The way the postoffice officials get tab on the new families is by the carriers. A carrier is supposed to be sort of a directory all of the time, and it is his business to keep track of and report all families which move in and out. These are recorded. A new system of recording new families and removals is followed at the

postoffice now. The card system was formerly used, but did not give satisfaction. The book system is the one now in use. A two-column edition of the Wichita directory is kept on hand, and between each sheet there are two blank leaves. The new families are recorded there.

FARMERS GET MAIL DAILY OVER NINE RURAL ROUTES.

The rural free delivery department of the Wichita postoffice and Sedgwick county is one of the best conveniences that a republican form of government is supposed to have for its people. This is not placing the Wichita and Sedgwick county departments away above other delivery departments, but it is saying that the rural free department in this county, which every day out of the year, with the exception of Sundays and holidays, gets mail to every farmer in the county, is as good as the best. Because this department is several years younger than the other departments in the local postoffice, it is not one whit behind the other departments in efficiency. Thirty-six carriers take charge of delivering mail to the farmers in Sedgwick county. Every carrier on an average covers twenty-nine miles per day. This number of carriers means that once each day mail is delivered on every section line in the county. Nine carriers take care of the rural work outside of Wichita. This means there are nine routes, each averaging twenty-nine miles. These carriers deliver mail to 4,640 persons. Each carrier starts from the local postoffice at 8 o'clock in the morning, and reports back at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. No matter what the condition of the weather, he must make his trip every day. The rural carriers out of Wichita are very reliable men, and it is seldom that one of them uses a substitute. Whom do you suppose his substitute is? Generally his wife. Strange, but true; most of the carriers' wives learn the route so thoroughly that it isn't any trouble for them to cover it when their husbands are unable to. They are said to make fewer mistakes than their husbands. The first routes in Sedgwick county were routes Nos. 1 and 2, leading out of Wichita. Each went north of the city. When it was first made public that Wichita was to have a rural free delivery, there was great agitation. Some advocated it as the proper thing for the government to do. Others thought they saw a nigger in the woodpile, and

said it was a scheme to get more money. The common report then was that it was a Republican scheme to get more taxes out of the farmers.

Some of the residents on the rural lines believed this so sincerely that they refused to take their mail for fear their taxes would be doubled. All of this happened in 1900. The first route was put in October 1, 1900. The first two rural carriers in the state were J. R. Moore and W. L. Appling. They agreed to cover the twenty-nine miles on each of their routes once a day for \$500 per year. Carriers now receive \$900 per year. It is said that they are trying to get their wages increased to \$1,000 per year. In 1902 routes 3 and 4 were added; later route 5 came in. M. M. Murdock was postmaster at that time and was an ardent advocate of this system. In 1905 the county service was established. This gave Sedgwick county the distinction of having the second complete service in the state. There has been no change in the service since that time. The carriers who go out of Wichita every morning are: Route No. 1, Charles C. Snyder; route No. 2, Benjamin F. Smith; route No. 3, A. J. Parker; route No. 4, Thomas A. Bowles; route No. 5, James C. Smith; route No. 6, Arthur Bell; route No. 7, J. W. Baughman; route No. 8, J. W. Snyder; route No. 9, J. T. Woodford.

POSTOFFICE.

Postoffice—Market, northwest corner William.

Postmaster—W. C. Edwards.

Assistant Postmaster—J. F. McCoy.

Cashier—J. H. McPherson.

Money Order Department—Frank Fisher, Ida W. Decatur, Henrietta Menz.

Register Clerk—G. A. Nachtrieb.

Stamp Clerk—Francis M. Cruse.

Night Service—C. E. Smith.

Chief Mailing Department—J. E. Higgins.

Mailing Clerks—E. W. Berdine, W. C. Ludlum, J. J. Smith, C. W. Berrman, J. E. Bishop, Otis Broadus, L. O. Julian.

Distributing Clerks—J. W. Belcher, C. R. Hibarger, H. S. Bird, Henry Kernohan, F. L. Bell, B. M. Farrar, H. H. Hatfield, J. H. Miller.

General Delivery Clerks—G. H. Winn, W. H. Plant, J. J. McDermott, F. H. Towner.

Forwarding Clerk—Mrs. Martha McCabe.

Superintendent of Carriers—E. B. Walden.

Carriers—Oscar Ward, G. T. Chouteau, V. M. Briggles, J. H. Smith, J. T. McDonald, C. H. Bracken, P. S. DeMaree, C. G. Lilly, T. H. Mayberry, M. J. Sweet, H. A. Pinaire, W. E. Barlow, I. R. Moore, J. A. Simon, W. C. Webber, Louis Bulkley, F. W. McClinck, A. V. Taggart, A. B. Fortner, H. L. Dewing, F. H. Obrist, J. F. A. Nitschke, J. H. South, C. H. Baker, A. E. Johnson, R. H. Moore, D. P. Young, R. F. Washburn, E. W. Knowles, L. V. Koch, C. V. Poole, E. B. Smith, A. O. Bradford, E. J. Burns, B. O. Chick, J. J. Branson, Jr., J. C. McDonald.

Substitute Carriers—Harry Bertholf, J. S. Benn, A. L. Feeler, Lee A. Pennock, Ralph Wentworth, W. G. Wertz.

Special Delivery Messengers—Rex E. Boyer, Robert Smith.

Rural Delivery Carriers—No. 1, J. R. Moore; No. 2, B. F. Smith; No. 3, W. C. Rodgers; No. 4, T. A. Boyles; No. 5, J. C. Smith; No. 6, Arthur Bell; No. 7, J. W. Baughman; No. 8, John Snyder; No. 9, J. T. Woodford. Substitute, C. C. Snyder.

Custodian—W. C. Edwards.

Engineers—R. W. Williams, Andrew Carmichael.

Janitors—Henry Schad, Henry W. James, John Simmonds.

Postal Stations—Station A, 1101 West Douglas avenue; clerk, G. T. Riley. Station 2, 726 North Main; clerk, Dunn Mercantile Company. Station 3, Boston Store; clerk, Charles G. Cohn; Station 4, George Innes Dry Goods Company; clerk, W. P. Innes.

RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE.

Offices, second floor Federal Building; chief clerk, D. E. Barnes.

HOW POSTAL RECEIPTS IN WICHITA HAVE GROWN.

The receipts of the postal department of the government in Wichita were \$66,344.01 in 1900. Since that time they have increased fourfold, the year ending March 31, 1910, making the enormous aggregate of \$4,232,326.61. Following are the postal receipts here for each of the past six years, during which time the annual collections for postal privileges have doubled:

1904	\$116,316.03
1905	129,939.42
1906	147,927.16
1907	167,554.74
1908	196,431.88
1909	232,326.61
1910, estimated.....	275,000.00

(The period covered for each year begins April 1 of that year and ends March 31 of the succeeding year.)

CHAPTER XI.

MEANING OF THE WORD "WICHITA."

By

J. R. MEAD.

For a week or more the literal English meaning of the word "Wichita" has been in controversy. Some stranger came here from the East and asked a hotel man what the word meant. Hotel men in Wichita are a little too busy to give any time to the origin and meaning of the Indian words, and if he did not tell his guest that much, he indicated it by his actions. It made the Eastern man indignant to see such indifference to one of the prettiest town names in the gazetteer, and he began telephoning all over town—to editors, college professors, school teachers, city statesmen, and everybody else who, he thought, ought to know the meaning of the word. Not one of them knew, until the greatest of all authorities on subjects concerning this valley—James R. Mead, pioneer and historian—was reached. It was on the end of his tongue—"Scattered Lodges."

For fully two days this authority was accepted, until an Irishman came along and asserted to the "Eagle" that the word "Wichita" meant "Tattooed Faces." We hated to hear the decision of Mr. Mead disputed—especially by a foreigner—and we called up William Mathewson, a man who was here before the Arkansas river was dug, and asked him about it. He dissented very strongly from the Irishman's opinion and stood loyally by his pioneer friend, J. R. Mead. He informed us also that the word "Wichita" is not a Wichita word at all, but an Osage word, and it was from the Osages themselves, many years ago, that he learned that the word meant "Scattered Lodges" or "Scattered Villages," which means the same thing.

Now comes the Irishman, who cites as his authority no less a person than J. W. Powell, director of the Bureau of American Ethnology. We have examined Mr. Powell's references to the

matter in the Seventeenth Annual Report of his bureau, and a casual reading of it would indicate that the Irishman was a little more than a match for the two famous Kansas pioneers. A more attentive reading, however, reveals the fact that "Tattooed Faces" comes from a Kiowa word which was applied to the Wichita, Waco, Tawakoni and Kichai Indians on account of their habit of tattooing their faces and mouths. The word in question is "Doguat," which evidently means "Wichita," for we find the Wichita mountains in Oklahoma called "Doguat kop" by the Kiowas even unto this day.

The question now is whether the Osages knew more about the Wichitas than the Kiowas did. We doubt it, but for all that, the name "Wichita" has been recognized by the government for a great many years, and no one would be willing to give it up for such an ugly word as "Doguat."

It is settled, therefore, that "Wichita" means "Scattered Lodges," and not "Tattooed Faces," and the superintendent of education ought to have it at once proclaimed in the school houses, so that when the next inquiring Easterner comes along and asks the question, all may be able to answer him.

CHAPTER XII.

THE DRILL HOLE AT WICHITA.

By

J. R. MEAD.

(Read before the Academy, Wichita, Kan., January 3, 1896.)

In the year 1895, the city of Wichita voted \$10,000 in bonds to drill one or more holes to ascertain what of value might be found beneath the city. Coal, salt, oil and gas were among the possibilities.

A sample of each five feet in depth has been preserved in glass jars, properly numbered. The hole is within the city limits, in the valley of the Arkansas, one-fourth of a mile from the river, and within fifty feet of the track of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. Work commenced October 20, 1895.

The first twelve feet was through surface soil and clay. Strata of quicksand and gravel filled with water were then reached. This constituted the underflow, or "subterranean river," as it was called in the newspapers. Great difficulty was experienced in securing a curbing through this sand and water, which caused a delay of several weeks. First, a round wooden pipe, sixteen inches in diameter, strongly made of two-inch pine, and wrapped with sheet iron, was placed in the hole and gradually sunk by pumping the sand from the inside. As depth was gained, the pipe constantly bent to the southeast, indicating a pressure in that direction. Trains passing imparted a quivering motion to the sand and water. The wooden pipe was abandoned, as it could not be kept vertical. A heavy wrought-iron tube fourteen inches in diameter was substituted, which proved a success.

Following is the log of the well, which at this writing has reached the first hard rock, black flint or chert, at a depth of 642 feet:

Depth, feet,	Thickness, feet,	LOG OF THE WELL.
12	12	Surface soil and clay. .
27	15	Quicksand and water.
42	15	Coarse sand and gravel, full of water.
80	38	Tenacious blue clay.
90	10	Gypsum crystals (selenite). Between 80 and 90 feet a pocket of smooth water-worn pebbles, consisting of white quartz, quartzite, granite, jasper, etc., broke into the well from the side.
165	75	Alternating layers of clay, gypsum and clay shales.
250	85	Massive gypsum, gray and black.
265	15	Blue shale.
270	5	Gypsum.
275	5	Light and dark shale.
285	10	Soft clay shale.
295	10	Clay and gypsum.
300	5	Gypsum.
325	25	Blue shale.
350	25	Black shale.
375	25	Blue shale.
385	10	Dark shale.
390	5	Blue shale.
400	10	Black shale.
440	40	Blue shale.
455	15	White and gray gypsum.
480	25	Shale, strongly charged with petroleum.
490	10	Dark shale.
550	60	Light gray shale.
560	10	Gray limestone.
563	3	Fine sand full of very strong brine, which rose 300 feet in the drill hole, and would perhaps have risen to the surface had it not been stopped by the insertion of tubing.
572	9	Gray limestone and clay.
575	3	Clay shale.
585	10	Black shale.
590	5	Blue clay.
600	10	Soapstone and clay or shale.
610	10	Light gray limestone.
615	5	Dark soapstone.
630	15	Dark shale.
637	7	Gray limestone.
642	5	Black flint (chert).

CHAPTER XIII.

WICHITA'S INDUSTRIAL HISTORY—IN THE BEGINNING.

Wichita's industrial history may be said, with subsequent explanations, to have begun as long ago as forty years. That many years ago, on what later became a portion of Wichita, as the Alamo addition, then an ideal camping place, a trading post, established by J. R. Mead, stood. This is believed to have been the first stationary place of business set up on what was to become Wichita. The hand-to-hand trading between men, white and Indian, and Indian and Indian, runs back before the records of civilization, but J. R. Mead, who still retains a wonderful power of recollection, recalls events in the Arkansas valley three score and ten years old. In the following, he gives the beginning of industrial life at the confluence of the Little and Big Arkansas rivers.

By

J. R. MEAD.

You ask me to write something of the first industrial and mercantile enterprises of this locality. I have had some experience with the present race and generation, also with a different people, who occupied the country before its present inhabitants. Of the former times, I will write. There are others to write of the country since its occupancy by its present inhabitants.

The Little Arkansas for five or six miles above its mouth always had been a favorite location on account of its abundant timber and pure water. It was surrounded by a country full of game, so here was a natural gathering place for Indians, traders and hunters.

The present inhabitants of the valley fondly imagine that before their arrival there was nothing here but earth, sky and river. In this they are in error. It is fair to assume that while Joseph was laying up grain in Egypt against years of famine,

there were people here laying up stores of provisions for winter use and for traffic with their neighbors.

It was the good fortune of the writer to have spent some years in this valley before the coming of its present people, on one occasion occupying what is now Sedgwick county for three weeks with no other inhabitants but two men, but there were camps, villages and townsites where people lived when it suited their convenience—unnumbered leagues of country was theirs to occupy when and where they pleased—and there were more cattle in the country then than now, and had been for some thousands of years.

Of a few things of which the writer learned or saw a part, I will briefly narrate.

IN 1835.

The first commercial enterprise that I have knowledge of was in 1835, when Jesse Chisholm guided a party from Arkansas to the mouth of the Little river, equipped with a small trading outfit, but in search of a gold mine or buried gold—the same, perhaps which parties dug in search of for two years recently in Charley Payne's park on the West Side. These enterprising Arkansas gentlemen spent some time here, but failed to find what they sought.

SOME PIONEER TRADERS.

Of what occurred here for some years after that, I have no knowledge, but in 1858 "Moxley and Mosely" were doing a mercantile business in a log house on the Little river at the Osage crossing, and did a thriving business for a while, until Moxley was drowned while fording the river at Lawrence. Moseley, after an eventful life, was killed by Indians at his hunting ranch on the Medicine river. Mosely was a jolly, ideal frontiersman, as fine a looking man as I ever saw. I named a street of our city for him. About the same time Jake Carey and Bob De Racken had a trading ranch where the Jewett farm (old Park City) was since located, and expected to make a fortune catching buffalo calves for market. Then, in 1860, came William Ross with his family, who built a cabin on the Big river. He was killed that fall, and his family returned East.

THE WICHITAS' ARRIVAL.

Then, in 1863, came the Wichitas, who located near the mouth of the Little river, and with whom the writer and others engaged in mercantile traffic, as also with the Osages, who made this valley their hunting ground. Their camps or villages were four or five miles up the Little river. At about the same time came bands of Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos and others, who settled on neighboring streams, and added to the population and business of the country.

We frequently took a wagon load of goods to one of these camps and made a camp of our own from which to trade, or moved into an Indian lodge, made ourselves at home, set up our stock of goods and stayed until we were traded out, when we would load up our robes and furs, call for our horses, which the Indians herded for us somewhere in the vicinity, and pull out for home, which, in the writer's case, was at his headquarters ranch at Towanda, where there was an Indian agency, postoffice, general store, etc.

ARTICLES OF MERCHANDISE.

Our staple articles of trade were flour, coffee, sugar, tobacco, Mackinac blankets, two and three point, bolts of imported save list strouding and broadcloth, costing from \$2.50 to \$5 a yard wholesale, calico, Chinese vermilion, knives, small axes, hair pipe, a bead two to six inches long and pearly white, made from the lip of a conch shell on the Atlantic coast, Iroquois and abalone shells from the Pacific ocean, beads from Germany, and many minor articles of use, adornment or fancy.

CREDIT TO THE REDMEN.

I frequently went on these trips alone, sometimes leaving the remainder of my goods with an Indian to trade while I was away. To some of them we sold goods on credit, and had no occasion to regret it. Our traffic was mostly in buffalo robes and furs, which were as good as gold. Our usual market was Leavenworth, where we sold our robes and also bought or received our goods from the East, they being shipped up the Missouri river by boat. Sometimes the Indians had money from the sale of half-wild

cattle whose owners had fled the country, which they gathered down about their old homes in the territory and sold to parties that they met along the border, who took the chances of smuggling them to a market, as at that time they were contraband of war. Not all Indians knew the value of money. During the Civil War the Cheyennes captured a paymaster's train on the Platte, and in the plunder they found a chest of greenbacks, something new to them. As they were pretty, they took them along for the children to play with at home, and for cigarette papers. Before they were used up, Colonel Bent, a famous trader, happened in their camp, and gathered in the remainder for about the price of waste paper. This was the story told to "Dutch Bill" (Griffenstein), who unfortunately arrived in their camp too late to get his share. Our people along the Little river knew the value of a dollar in paper or gold.

CREDIT UNLIMITED.

Occasionally we took a trip to Philadelphia or New York to purchase goods in quantity. A frontier trader who had proven himself capable and reliable could command almost unlimited money or credit in any of the great cities. I once drove one wagon loaded with furs and robes from this vicinity to Leavenworth, which sold for a sum equal to thirteen carloads of wheat, estimating the average price and capacity of cars for the past ten years. I have on numbers of occasions sold as much as \$3,000 worth of goods in one day, before the present race of people came to this country.

There were others in trade—"Stine and Dunlap," "Lewellen and Davis," Spooner, now of Anadarko.

On one occasion, Jesse Chisholm, a half-blood Indian and Scotchman, going south to Washita, bought of me \$3,000 worth of goods, saying he would pay me on his return, whenever that might be. The next spring he returned, camped by my place with his train. I took supper with him, and he said, "I am owing you. I have no money, but have buffalo robes, wolf skins, beaver, buckskins, and you can take your pay from any of them." I chose coyote skins, which were legal tender for a dollar, and he counted out three thousand. We also sent wagon trains of goods to the camps of wild Indians, 200 miles southwest.

WALNUT GROVE.

On another occasion he returned from the South, which included some Indian families and Mexicans whom he had bought from the Comanches when children, and trained to be expert teamsters, herders and campmen. He camped at the "Walnut Grove," a beautiful and favorite camping place between the rivers. Here he was met by two traders, Charley Rath and Louie Booth, who bought all of his furs before I arrived. However, there was a big pile of buffalo robes under a walnut tree, which Chisholm asked me to buy. I looked them over and made an offer of \$1,600 for the lot, which he accepted. None of us then knew the market value of such robes. On getting them to market, I found they were worth double cost.

Chisholm built some cabins, a trading house and a strong corral at "Walnut Grove," about 100 yards in front of the house later built by Sand Hill Davis, a farm now owned by Judge Wall, I believe. Close to Alamo Addition, between the rivers, and up the river on the east side a quarter of a mile, at a fine crossing, "Don Carlos," a young man with an Indian wife, built a cabin and sold goods in a small way. On one occasion Chisholm brought up 400 head of cattle from his home place on the Canadian river. I bought them, paying \$16 a head, and held them at the Walnut Grove, using the corral and buildings he had turned over to me.

THE LAW OF THE PLAINS.

The cattle ranged between the rivers that summer among the Indians, with one man to look after them. Here I might remark with enlightenment to many that during these years in which I personally was in business in the valley, there was no law but the law of the plains, "Do as you would be done by," no courts, no officers; yet life and property were as safe as they are today. A man could ride all over the country alone with thousands of dollars of money in his pocket, among Indians, whites, classed as outlaws, half-breeds, anybody, camping alone at night with a load of valuable goods, as I have done many a time, without the slightest apprehension of danger. During these years no intoxicating liquors were sold or used. But one crime was committed to my knowledge in that time, and that by a renegade white man. It was not until after the country was surveyed, in 1867, and

opened to settlement, that there came the saturnalia of crime, debauchery, craft and graft.

In the spring of 1865 came John Stevens with men, teams and goods, and, with Chisholm's assistance, employed Indians (mostly Caddoes) to gather and drive up cattle from the territory, paying for them in goods. In the course of a summer they had collected a herd of over 3,000 head, which they held on the West Side, the Indians herding them over several miles of country between the rivers and the Cowskin. Their camp was about where the watch factory was built on the West Side. These cattle were first driven east, where Stevens was drowned, crossing a river, and then driven to New Mexico on a government contract, as originally intended.

AT COWSKIN GROVE.

About this time I had a stock of goods at an Indian village at Cowskin Grove, in charge of Davis Ballou, a Cherokee Indian. During June and July he collected for me 1,500 buffalo hides, but the Big Arkansas was such a great river that summer we could not cross, except by swimming on horseback, which we often did. Soon the moths commenced eating the hides. We moved them, beat them, put them on platforms with a big smoke underneath, yet still the moths ate them. Finally, towards the last of August, we got the running gear of a wagon across by men riding the horses and standing on the axles. We made a rack and hauled the hides to the bank of the river. Still it was impassable, and they lay on the banks for two weeks, waiting for the river to fall, which it failed to do. At last a party of thirty-five Kaw Indians came along, to whom I told my woes. They kindly offered to swim them over, so we built rafts of dry cottonwood logs, on which they would pile a lot of hides. Then one or two would swim ahead with a rope to a possible standing place and pull while others swam and pushed, sometimes landing a quarter of a mile below. They got them across finally, losing but a few hides. The great impassable river cost me in this instance \$1,500, for on taking the hides to the market they were docked one dollar each for being moth-eaten.

These are a few of the many facts and incidents I might write of trade and traffic here before the white man came. I look back to those days of absolute freedom as among the happiest of my life.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE LITTLE ARKANSAS.

By

J. R. MEAD.

The central third of Kansas was bountifully provided by nature with rivers and streams of pure running water, bordered by lines of stately trees. No more beautiful or diversified pastoral landscape could be found on the North American continent.

There was no monotony. At short intervals the traveler would find a convenient camping place in the shelter of tall trees, beside a running stream or spring coming out of a cliff. He could usually supply his larder with fish, turkey, venison or buffalo within a few minutes' walk of camp, while his horses were grazing in the sweet grasses and many-colored flowers which covered valley, hill and prairie alike. As he proceeded on his way, he might observe the many forms of animal life grazing on the abundant herbage or basking in the warm sunshine. Occasionally would be seen the stately elk, with his head-dress of immense horns, from two or three old bachelors to bands of several hundred. To vary the landscape were occasional hills of the red Dakota sandstone, or strata of white magnesian limestone cropping out of the river bluffs, broken blocks covering the slopes, quarried ready for use. In another locality would be seen cedar hills crowned with heavy formations of gypsum, which sometimes formed cliffs along the water courses, while at convenient distances were salt streams, springs or marshes to supply the needs of the animal life, suggesting the sea of rock salt which underlies much of this portion of the state. What more could nature or art do to improve upon this natural park?

I write of the country as I saw and explored it in 1859 and later years as it then was and had been for untold ages in the past. All of these streams were tributaries of our two great rivers, the Kansas and the Arkansas—appropriate names for the

rivers of Kansas. All of these rivers and nearly all of the streams flowed eastward or southeastward towards the morning sun.

These streams had some interesting history before civilized man came upon the scene, and many of them much interesting history since. There should be a local historical society in each county to gather and preserve the tragedies, comedies and romance of the early days.

When the writer roamed over the hills and valleys of the Solomon, Saline and Smoky Hill, from 1859 to 1862, he imagined that the most beautiful country on earth. Then his red brethren warned him of impending wrath soon to come, and thinking of his loved companion and baby boy, he wisely decided to seek a new field of activity toward the sunny South. Here he discovered that the "raging Walnut," as it was called, and the Little Arkansas were just as beautiful and interesting as the country to the north, and in later years has found that all of Kansas is very good. The Flint Hills, which were once considered utterly worthless, are now the choice natural grazing grounds of the state.

The Little Arkansas was a gem; a ribbon of stately trees winding down to the parent river through a broad, level valley of green, as I first saw it, dotted over with the black bodies of fat, sleek buffalo and an occasional group of antelope or straggling elk, and not a living human soul in all the country now known as Sedgwick county. Such was the Little Arkansas as the writer first saw it from the highlands to the east, overlooking the valley, on a sunny afternoon in June, 1863.

From whom or when the Little Arkansas obtained its name, or why, of all the many tributaries of the big river, it should have been given its diminutive, I have not been able to learn. The earliest explorer of whom I have knowledge called it by that name. The river was the western hunting ground of the Osage Indians when the first explorers visited them on the Osage river. At that time they had a name which signified it was the young or offspring of the big river. The Arkansas was "Ne Shutsa" (red water); the Little Arkansas river, "Ne Shutsa Shinka" (the young or little red water), associating the two rivers as parent and child. Or perhaps some early explorers or trappers, coming down from the mountains, following the almost treeless Arkansas (all trails on Kansas rivers were on the north side), came to the

beginning of the continuous body of timber on the big river, ten miles above the junction, and a short distance to the east saw another heavily timbered river, with a V-shaped valley between, and considered the two equally entitled to the name.

The Santa Fe trail crossed the head of the Little Arkansas near its source, where it was a small stream, and there it was known by the same name. The writer's description is intended for the lower portion of the river, in Sedgwick county. The Little Arkansas was the dividing line between the plains proper, the range of the wild Indians, and the country to the east, the home of the reservation Indians, and was near the eastern limit of the main range of the buffalo at the time of which I write. It was the dividing line between the limestone formations, with their black, heavy, waxy soil, and the sandy, loamy soil to the west. It was the western limit of the oak in this part of the state, some fine oak timber growing in the wooded bends near its mouth, and was the last heavily timbered stream in Kansas as the traveler proceeded directly west, and south of the big river.

In Sedgwick county it lies under the sixth principal meridian, which divides the State of Kansas. Commencing at this meridian, the ranges are Nos. 1 to 25 to the eastern boundary, and Nos. 1 to 43 to the western boundary. It is about the eastern limit of the cretaceous formation.

Its pure waters were fed by springs issuing from the sheet of sand and gravel underlying the valley, and abounded in fish and mollusks. Of the latter, *Unio purpuratus* grew to maximum size and beauty, while *Unio arkansensis* was first found here and named from the stream. Beavers made their home in its banks as late as 1878.

About six miles above the junction was the western terminus of the great Osage trail from the Neosho and Verdegris to the Little Arkansas, evidently long in use, from the deep gullies washed in the trails on the slopes of the hills. Hunters and traders followed the trail and came to the little river at the same gravel ford.

The country beyond to the south and southwest was almost unknown, and none ventured very far in that direction, both hunters and Osages being in fear of the wild Indians, referred to by the Osages as "Paducas," who, they said, were as plenty as the grass, somewhere to the west. No one on the Southwestern

frontier knew of such a river as Medicine Lodge or Salt Fork, or of there being timber in that direction.

Of the history of the Little Arkansas prior to 1860, but little is known. In Du Pratz's map of Louisiana, published in 1757, in which the course of the Arkansas is properly laid down, at the junction of the two rivers is marked "A Gold Mine." In 1836 Jesse Chisholm guided a party from Arkansas, in search of this mine or of buried treasure, to the mouth of the Little Arkansas. There is a tradition that long ago a party from New Mexico, descending the river in boats, were surrounded by Indians in the night at this point, and after a siege of several days were all killed but one, who escaped, after he had buried their gold and silver. Recently parties dug for two years in search of this treasure. Whether found or not, this valley has proven to be a gold mine to the industrious agriculturist.

This was the favorite hunting ground of the Little Osages, who usually came out in June and again in September, under their chief, Mint-sho-shin-ka (Little Bear), and No-po-wal-la, second chief. They camped along the Little Arkansas in the timber and made their lodges of rows of green poles set in the ground about eight feet apart, bent over and tied together, forming an arch about six feet high; other poles would be lashed to the sides with willow withes, and all covered with dry buffalo skins, forming very comfortable houses, ten, twenty or more feet in length.

Buffaloes were here in endless numbers, except in the winter months, when they, along with the other countless herds from the North, moved off southwest to their vast winter home, western Oklahoma and Texas, the Pecos river and the Gulf, which they had abandoned in the summer for the cooler uplands of the North, leaving the grass to grow undisturbed for use on their return. Some wintered in the broken hills of Medicine Lodge and along the Salt Fork, as they did in the hills of the Solomon and the Saline. The last buffalo seen on the Gulf were two bulls killed on a peninsula below Corpus Christi, in the winter of 1868.

The Osage (Wa Sashes), Wichita and plains Indians used the bow and arrow in killing buffalo. I have witnessed a run which left the prairie strewn with dead cows for ten miles, and it was pitiful to see the little red calves gather on the slight elevations, looking for their mothers to come back to them.

Of the first attempts to settle on the little river, I have learned

that in 1857 a party of men came from Coffey county, Kansas, for the purpose of hunting and trading. Of these, Moxley and Ed. Moseley built a trading house at the Osage crossing and engaged in trading with the Osages. C. C. Arnold, Bob Juracken and others went up the big river a few miles and built a cabin, and, it is said, broke up some ground and undertook to make a fortune catching buffalo calves for the Eastern market. Moxley was drowned not long afterward, fording the river at Lawrence. Moseley returned to Humboldt, and their trading house was burned. Arnold and his associates left for Butler county, and soon no trace of their occupation remained. These parties were hunters and traders and could hardly be classed as settlers. But in 1860 came John Ross, with his wife and two children and a hired man, equipped with tools and utensils for farming and housekeeping. He built a comfortable cabin, stables, etc., about three miles beyond the Osage crossing, on a high bank of the big river, broke up some ground and planted a crop. All went well with him until, in the fall, he, with his man and team, went for a load of meat a few miles across the river in the direction of Cowskin Grove. They did not return. A party of horsemen from the Walnut came out, and after a long search found Ross' body, nothing more. How he came to his death is not known—probably killed by Indians. His man and horses were never found. The body was buried on the bank of the river and a mound of stones placed over it. His fate was that of many of the pioneers, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. His family returned East, and the two Arkansas rivers reverted to their original solitude.

When, in June, 1863, the writer, with two men, visited this valley on a three weeks' hunting and exploring trip, and camped in the Ross cabin the first night, there was not another human being in what is now Sedgwick county, nor another vestige of human habitation, as we learned by driving all over it. But of animal life there was plenty. Close by the Ross cabin the writer killed sixteen buffaloes and a big horned elk within an hour. Yet some time in the dim ages of the past a people had lived here, for the floodtide of the Arkansas, in cutting into the natural strata of the valley, disclosed a pottery vessel of good workmanship, five feet below the surface, made, perhaps, by the Lansing man's wife. The valley here was above high water.

In the fall of 1863 came the affiliated bands comprising the Wichita Indians. They made their village on the little river,

near its junction, in the timber, some 1,500 of them. They flourished on buffalo meat and the fine gardens of corn, beans, squash and melons they raised the next summer. They built cone-shaped houses of poles, thatched with grass, ten to twenty-five feet in diameter, fifteen to twenty feet high, very comfortable and durable. They were a kind, gentle, honest people. At the same time there came from the South camps of Kickapoos, Shawnees, Delawares and others, who settled on the Walnut and White Water. These Indians were the friends of all the wild Indians of the plains, and so long as they remained the Southwestern frontier was safe from hostile attack. With these Indians as guides, we traveled all the plains in safety, and visited the wild tribes and thoroughly explored the country of the Cimarron, Canadian and Washita, the winter home of the wild tribes. These rivers some years later were stated by military men to be an unknown country, when the fact was that some of us knew that country well as early as 1864, and visited the wild tribes in their winter camps with teams and wagons for the purpose of trade, and came and went at all times, winter or summer, without difficulty, loss or hardship.

There were pretty lively times along the Little Arkansas after the Wichitas came. The Osages were here part of the time. Parties of Kaw Indians occasionally came. The plains Indians came here visiting their friends, the Wichitas. The writer met here Black Kettle, the Cheyenne chief who was killed at the Washita fight; Satanta, the great war chief of the Comanches, and Heap of Bears, the great medicine man and warrior of the Arapahoes. Col. J. H. Leavenworth was sent to this point by the government to arrange with the wild Indians for a treaty of peace, as we could communicate with them at all times, and to him in a large measure should be given the credit for the success of the treaty of 1865.

The most influential man among these Indians was Jesse Chisholm, a Cherokee, who was beloved of all the Indians. He in his younger days had bought captive Mexican children from the Comanches and raised them as members of his family. They were entirely devoted to him, became expert in all the lore of the plains, and were excellent guides and interpreters, as they could speak or understand all languages of the plains, including the sign language which was in universal use. Of these most faithful and devoted men, I remember the names of Jackson, Caboon

and Yonitob. They were very handy to have along when we ran into a war party of Indians, strangers to us, as happened the writer a number of times. Chisholm laid out the trail bearing his name, from the Little Arkansas south to the north fork of the Canadian, and the stream running through Wichita was named for him, as he was the first person to build a house on it.

The Treaty of the Little Arkansas was held on the east bank of the Little Arkansas, about six miles above its mouth, in the middle of October, 1865. The commissioners on the part of the United States were William S. Harney, Kit Carson, John B. Sanborn, William W. Bent, Jesse H. Leavenworth, Thomas Murphy, and James Steel. The Indians were represented by Moke-ta-ve-to (Black Kettle), Oh-to-ah-ne-so-to-wheo (Seven Bulls), Oh-has-tee (Little Raven), Oh-hah-mah-hah (Storm), and other chiefs and head men on the part of the Indians.

The Indians, several hundred in number, camped along the river, on either side, as did the one or two companies of soldiers who were present. The Wichita, Waco, Caddo, Ioneye, Towakony, Kechi, and other Indians, some 1,500 in number, were living here at the time, and were scattered along down the river to the junction. They had cultivated extensive gardens, and had scaffolds covered with sliced pumpkins, beans and corn, drying for winter use, with plenty of melons in their gardens, which were a feast to visiting brethren.

Kit Carson came down the Arkansas river from New Mexico with an officer's ambulance and army wagons, with teamsters, cook and an escort of six soldiers, and was well equipped with tents, provisions, etc. Colonel Bent came down from his fort on the big river, up towards the mountains. General Harney and Kit Carson were the most noted persons present. The former, a noted Indian fighter and athlete, was as slim as our former senior senator, six foot four in his moccasins, his luxuriant hair as white as snow. He was a famous story teller. Kit Carson was his opposite in everything but fighting qualities. He was short-legged, standing, I should think, about five feet five or six, stoutly built, short, arms, round body, ruddy face, red eyes with rays running from the pupils like the spokes in a wheel, his silky flaxen hair reaching almost to his shoulders. He was a man of fierce, determined countenance. With a kind, reticent and unassuming disposition, he combined the courage and tenacity of a bulldog. His prominent characteristic seemed to be instant deci-

sion and action. Carson and Bent were much together. The latter was a famous Indian trader, dark, almost, as an Indian, with jet-black hair and eyes. By invitation, I camped with Carson while the treaty was in progress and heard from his lips some of his adventures on the plains and mountains.

Carson died at Fort Lyon; Colonel Bent, at Westport, Mo., I believe, and General Harney in Louisiana. Black Kettle was killed by Custer's men in the battle of the Washita, and most of the other participants in the treaty, both white and Indian, have long since gone to their long home.

All kinds of rumors were floating about during the progress of the treaty, and there was considerable uncertainty and anxiety as to its success. The Indians were friendly, but very independent and indifferent, and reluctant to relinquish their rights to all of their country north of the Arkansas and much of that to the southwest. They justified their depredations and cruelties by the wanton slaughter of their women and children by white men at Sand creek a year before.

While the treaty was in progress, a rumor came that a party of Indians coming down from the North to the treaty had been attacked by soldiers on the Santa Fe trail, and thirteen of them killed. At once the camp was in an uproar. A runner came into the tent where I was sitting with Carson and Charley Rath, and told of the rumor. Instantly Carson said, emphatically: "I don't believe a word of it; those Indians could not possibly have been there at that time," and, turning to me, said: "If that rumor is true, the treaty is gone to hell. I had six soldiers coming down, and would need a hundred going back."

I asked him about some of his adventures of former years, of which I had read in the papers. He replied: "Some of these newspaper fellows know a damn sight more about my affairs than I do." The origin of one story he told as follows: "When I was a young man I was going out to Santa Fe with a pack-train of mules. We camped at Pawnee Rock and were all asleep in our blankets in the grass, when a party of Indians rode over us in the dark, yelling to stampede our stock. I jumped up and fired my rifle in the direction they had gone, and shot one of my best mules through the heart."

About rattlesnake bites on man or animals, he said: "I cut the bite open and flash powder in it three times, and it is all right. One of my men was once bitten on the hand by a big

rattler. I cut it open, flashed powder in it three times, and that afternoon he killed and scalped two Injuns."

The next year—1866—Grierson and Custer, with the famous Seventh Cavalry, were stationed at the Santa Fe crossing on the Little Arkansas, where there was a stone corral, and built a log stockade. The crossing was a noted place on the trail, as running water was always present and timber for fuel abundant, as well as fine grass for grazing. In 1867 a detachment of the Fifth United States Infantry, under command of Col. Thomas F. Barr, was stationed near the mouth of the river, by the Indian village, where Wichita now stands. These troops brought the cholera with them, and many Indians and about a dozen settlers of Butler county died, including one of the writer's household.

The cholera spread all over the plains. As the Wichita Indians were returning to their former homes on the Washita, in the fall of 1867, so many of them died that at one creek they were unable to bury their dead, and we gave the name of Skeleton creek to that stream.

In the summer of 1867 the Indians were said to be on the war path, but we traveled over the plains as usual, unmolested.

Why a company of infantry should be sent to this point, we were never able to learn. In the previous years we had been coming and going over these plains with no protection whatever, and all had been peace and quiet in this part of the state. A company of infantry would not have been effective beyond a half-mile of their camp. None but well mounted horsemen, trained to plains life, could have protected an extended frontier.

General Sheridan came out and organized a winter campaign in October, 1868. The Nineteenth Kansas Cavalry was ordered to proceed across the country to the junction of Beaver creek and the North Fork of the Canadian, via Camp Beecher, at the mouth of the Little Arkansas. The writer, by chance, met the command going into camp on the South Fork of the Cottonwood—a splendid body of men and horses, under an able and honored commander, whom I well knew, and was invited into his tent. On asking the colonel where he was going, he replied that he was not allowed to say, but from inquiries he made as to the country beyond, I soon learned his destination. I then said: "Colonel, you cannot get through that country at this season of the year unless you know just where to go; it is exceedingly broken and difficult." I asked to see his guides. He sent an orderly out,

who brought in two young men, neither of whom I had seen before. I knew they were never in that part of the country, or I should have known them. They were absolutely ignorant of the country they were attempting to guide a regiment through. One of them was Jack Stillwell, who knew the country north of the Arkansas well enough. They soon went out. When I told the colonel that he never would get through with those men as guides, and offered to furnish him guides who knew the country, as for several years we had sent teams over the same route in winter and summer, trading with the Comanches, who wintered in the vicinity of his destination, our outfits always returning safely, the colonel replied, in language too forcible to repeat, that Sheridan had furnished him these guides, and they had to take him through; that he had no authority or money to employ other guides.

The command reached Camp Beecher, at the mouth of the Little Arkansas, on the 12th of November. From there to Camp Supply, their destination, was about 160 miles by our route. For ninety miles, to the junction of Medicine Lodge and Salt Fork, there was a plain trail over a level country; Camp Supply was three days' march beyond, over a good route if one knew where to go. It was a six-day trip from the Little Arkansas to Camp Supply; a good horseman could ride it in three days, with ease. The command left Camp Beecher November 14 and reached Camp Supply November 28. It should have made the trip in six days and arrived safely at the destination two days before the terrible snow storm of the afternoon of the 22d, which came near destroying the command and caused untold suffering and loss. My only apology for writing of this stupendous blunder is that it is properly a part of the history of the Little Arkansas.

The writer is not one of those who believe that only dead Indians are good Indians. During the five years' residence of the Wichita Indians on the Little Arkansas, I knew of but one crime committed in the country. Jack Lawton, in charge of my trading post between the rivers, was killed by a renegade white man. In the first five or six years after the Indians had left, and the country was open for settlement, I have a record of some twenty men who came to a sudden and violent death. Most of these were no special loss to the country.

In the summer and fall of 1867 white horse thieves were engaged in running off the Indians' horses, going in the direction

of Fall river and the Cottonwood. In retaliation, just before their departure, the Wichitas took some horses from those rivers.

With the survey of the country in 1867, and its opening to settlement, there drifted into the country some of the most vicious and lawless characters to be found in the West. Very soon we found it was necessary to lock our doors at night and take indoors any loose property we might have—something we were unaccustomed to do during the Indian occupation. Prohibition prevailed, in fact as well as in name, on the Little Arkansas until the white man came.

Briefly, I have written something of the freedom, beauty and chivalry of the country as it was, and the fascination of those times and scenes lingers in my mind like the memory of pleasant dreams; but gone are the Indians, the bison, and the beaver, and in their haunts along the little river are the gardens, fields, orchards, homes, cities, and villages of thousands of prosperous people.

It is my prayer that in the happy hunting grounds of the Great Spirit I may again meet some of my faithful friends of those early days, both red and white.

CHAPTER XV.

A LAWYER'S REVERIES OF THE TIMES WHEN WICHITA WAS IN THE GRISTLE.

By

KOS HARRIS.

In the attic of memory, long disused, almost forgot, crumbling to decay, I ran afoul some old yarns, which it hath pleased me to weave into a patchwork fabric of mine own fancy for amusement.

PREFATORY.

The past is a rose-covered walk as we travel in recollection; invested with a hazy, dim outline that gives to retrospect a view of pleasurable facts, shading the bitter past until it, like a ship at sea, recedes gradually from sight till lost from view, and all becomes waste—the future a hope, the past a dream, the present only filled with gloomy forebodings, doubts, apprehensions and fears. Each year the past has a new charm, a richer coloring, not noted nor recalled before, that lends additional interest to the mind-painting, even as “Robinson county twenty-year-old” jugs take on added strength, beauty and aroma with the flight of time, proving that age, covered with dust and cobwebs, yet can conjure bright fantasies that the “still” of the present ne’er can rival.

The labor of the receding vision, like a prairie sunset, seems to give its softest picture as the golden ball sinks low in the horizon; seems a delightful playground whereon merry boys and girls were wont to play; the labor of the present is simply drudgery, and hateful. Our past, as we dream it over, is as the first circus, our present an unpaid packing-house subscription. When Senator Ingalls was first elected; when “Subsidy” Pomeroy was under a cloud, which as yet has never rolled away; when the fraudulent bond issue of Harper, Barber and Kingman was

disclosed; when the Winner and McNutt cremation on North Main street was fresh; when the Harvey county bond fight was ripe; when the batch of horse thieves were hanged at Douglas; when Texas cattlemen were legitimate prey of all classes, from the highest to the lowest, and cattle were commerce; when the United States land office was at the corner of Main and Second streets; when Madame Sage ran a billiard parlor opposite the Occidental; when it was a mile, almost, from civilization, through a forest of sunflowers, to the home of the "Eagle"; when the Eagle Block and the old State National Bank Building (now the National Bank of Commerce corner) were the cynosures of Douglas avenue; when Steele & Levy had an office where Sam Houck's store now is, and a circus pitched its tent where the "Eagle" office now is; when the dance houses across on the West Side were in the zenith of immoral splendor, and one of the presiding goddesses excused herself the night her husband was shot, with a hope that the guests would not think her absence from the room, on such a trying occasion, a breach of etiquette; when the saloons were not only gorgeous but magnificent, not only fashionable but quasi-respectable; when at midnight, throughout the summer, the gentle winds carried the familiar tones o'er the silent town, of 49, 85, 76, 32, 91 and 74, "Keno!" from the second floor of an old frame building then situated where the Citizens' Bank Building now stands; when the old "Tremont," then the "Empire," Hotel stood on the corner of Main and Central—when all these things were fresh, and many other things of less and greater note were living facts, 'twas then the writer hereof became a Kansan, a citizen of the city of Wichita, and a member of that body of whom the poet hath said, "War is its jest," and which body some carrion-minded wretch hath derided by saying that the law of "self-defense is understood because no lawyer had any hand in making it."

The people of Wichita, at that date, did not send away for counsel to try cases, as some other counties did, when matters of mighty and deep import were on hand. The bar of Wichita has ever had the confidence of the people, notwithstanding that a few sturdy "blackbucks" have got into the legal flock. Law, religion, education, journalism, physic and politics were ably represented, but other pens may do justice to other vocations, and my humble task, and pleasure, is to collect the withered roses that have fallen in my path in the days that are no more, and to recall in retro-

spect some of the deeds of the happy days of the years that have sped, as seen from a law office, the interior of which was plain even to poverty, and the patrons of which, "in the old days," were not much given to style.

I am not writing history, for history must exist before it is written. It is the biography of the active brain of a place, locality or country, and though that brain is here, a recognized unknown entity, it so far has not, in science or profession, legislative hall or pulpit, made the world's noisy tongue proclaim to the gaping thousands our greatness. That we have in our midst some great unrecognized "purring" brain that will carry the name "Wichita" to the portals of far-off time, there is no reasonable doubt.

History teaches us that we are dependent on great vice or virtue to be long remembered; hamlets that would ere this have been lost to history are preserved to us, until there is a romantic halo thrown round their very pigsties, and we are as familiar with their history as if it was today instead of the yesterday of piled-up and moss-grown centuries—aye, even villages whose history comes to us thundering adown the highways, aisles and boulevards of the misty, dusty, past have withstood the ebb and flow of the waters of oblivion, either by reason of some mighty virtuous intellect whose pen as burnished gold shines on the world through the lapse of ages; some warrior whose Damascus blade has blazed a track through the forests of mythical lore, patriarchal legend, ancient, medieval and modern history, yet is today bright and shining as the disk of the moon in full-orbed splendor; or some one matriculated in the very genius of infamy, some savant in crime's belles lettres, whose sin-stained and blackened hand has left the print on history's page, and the foul blot seems to be a fresh-struck coin from the historical mint, rather than an abraded coin of a time that runs almost beyond the grasp of intellect, almost baffling the research of the historian as he gropes in agony to find a virtuous act worthy of record, and turns in disgust and immortalizes a town by the record of a crime.

Thus, if Wichita thwarts the ravages of Time's gnawing ravenous and destructive touch, it must be through amarinthine infamy or imperishable virtue.

"What shall the harvest be?" I but feebly recall visions of swift flown hours; endeavor but to rescue from quick oblivion a few withered wild flowers strewn along the river's brim, give

unto them the counterfeit of life, pluck a nosegay and bind them together with memory's slender thread to preserve them a little longer from the ocean of "time, whose waves are years," which hath swallowed the archives of centuries and blurred, erased and obliterated the records of those whose monumental shafts, reared against "the tooth of time and razure of oblivion," are but as the ashes of the things they were vainly intended to commemorate. I string a string of colored beads to amuse, not instruct, the grown-up babies of Wichita.

That Wichita shall be saved the humiliation of being buried underneath the dust which will eventually hide most towns in Kansas, there is no doubt, and there is just as little doubt that we have in our midst, though unknown, a Webster, a Lincoln, a Grant, a Bentham, a Mansfield, a Beecher, an Edison, and that some unborn chronicler of events will, when we are all dust or ashes, embalm in never-dying prose or poesy the memory of some Wichitan, even as Gray immortalized, in verse:

Some village Hampden that, with dauntless breast,

The little tyrant of his fields withstood;

Some mute, inglorious Milton here may rest;

Some Cromwell, guiltless of his country's blood.

CHAPTER I.

At the time of my advent in Wichita, the legal profession was not as well dressed, well bookèd, or finely officed as at present. There was a "Tog-haired" commonness in the dress, conduct and tout ensemble of the profession, which did not comport with the assumed dignity of some of the modern Hortensiuses of Wichita. To the new immigrant it seemed as if the profession had adopted the ways of the country, "homesteaded" or "pre-empted" all the clients, and regarded the new man as a "claim-jumper." In fact, the right hand of fellowship was extended in such manner that you felt as though a "wet-elm club" was handy—i. e., the cordiality was about such a welcome as you give a fellow who called at your girl's home after you had pre-empted the "parlor" and were getting down to business.

To a legal tenderfoot with eighteen dollars in money—two dollars of which went for a copy of the Statutes of Kansas, five dol-

lars for a copy of Swan and Plumb's (Senator Plumb's) "Justice Practiees," and four dollars for a row of wet-pine shelves, the outlook was promising—in fact, it was—

Eating the air, on promise of supply,
Flattering himself in project of power.
Though there was no fear of becoming dry,
There was not provender to last a fleeting hour.

I can truly say to those who came after me:

If sorrow can admit of society,
Tell o'er your sorrows by viewing mine;
If ancient sorrow be most revered,
Give mine the benefit of seniory.

Judge William P. Campbell (our own sweet William) was then Lord Chancellor, Master of the Rolls, Chief Baron, Chief Justice Archon, Mafti, Kadi, Rhadamanthus, over Sedgwick, Sumner, Cowley, Butler, Greenwood and Howard (Elk and Chautauqua) counties. Campbell was a fearless judge.

Edward B. Jewett (our own former postmaster) was justice of the peace and police judge, and, as McCarthy says of the "House of Hanover," having the gift of inheritance, Edward seemeth to be possessed of the gift of continuous office tenure.

William C. Little (our own North Lawrence Avenue Presbyterian deacon) was probate judge.

Judge Henry C. Sluss was county attorney, and at the head of the legal profession. Since which Henri has drawn a salary as judge on Mexican claims.

Judge McCollough was elected city attorney in the spring of A. D. 1874, to succeed Judge William Baldwin. McCollough was a spendthrift, and owned a building rented for saloon purposes at \$1,000 per year, and, it was said, never drew a cent of rent. He was presented with a silk hat the night he was elected city attorney, and he paid a fifty-dollar bar bill ere

"The breezy call of incense-breathing morn"

roused the slumbering town from repose. McCullough had not died if Keeley had proclaimed his famous cure in the year A. D. 1874. He was a jolly Scotchman, a liberal-hearted man, free from guile, and as easily imposed on as a child. He once loaned the author five dollars, without chattel mortgage security, and, in

fact, it was a great business disadvantage and personal injury to me when Jim McCullough died.

It could not be said of McCullough, as it was said of another member of the bar (now gone to a better land—i. e., Indian Territory), that if he had known a little law he would have known something of everything. McCullough was a brevet lawyer and cared nothing for law, save as it entitled him to respect and standing. He was, at that date, too rich to become a lawyer. He was one of the men David Dudley Field had in mind when he said, "It was as hard for a rich man to become a lawyer as it was for a camel to go through the eye of a needle." There is a legend that when Jim McCullough died he bequeathed the unexpired term of his office to the gentleman who was appointed to fill the vacancy. This may have been in Jim's Scotch education, and he may have thought it was his office, and not the public's, but those who wanted the place, then as now, spent their time "cussing" the "power" who made the appointment. It is observable that the position of city attorney in Wichita has been filled by able counselors from the beginning. It has been sought by lawyers and has grown in favor as a position, while that of police judge has tended to draw and injure rather than elevate men. This, in a less degree, seems to be the fate of the probate judge's office, but the opinions of men differ concerning these things.

But, returning to our muttons. I wormed myself into M. W. Levy's good graces, metaphorically speaking, at the side of McCullough's deathbed, in a room on the second floor at the northeast corner of Douglas avenue and Main street, torn down by Henry Schweiter in May, A. D. 1910, and was thereby enabled to replace the loss of McCullough by inaugurating a business of rediscounting small personal law library chattel mortgage paper with Levy. Levy at that date was a political Machiavelli, and tradition saith he gave Zach Chandler et al. pointers on counting out at elections. He was secretary of the senatorial convention in 1874 (composed of all that part of Kansas lying west of Newton, running west to Sundown and south to the Red river), when it was hinted that Henry Booth, of Larned, was the real nominee of the convention. No one ever believed the report, but, like Henry Ward Beecher's "damned hot day" remark, it, like the "scent of the rose," still lingers.

Levy was from Denver, had formerly been on the pay roll of the "Rocky Mountain News," and was considered a litterateur.

Levy is now in New City, connected with the insurance business. He was a member of the bar, was authority on "land titles," and if he had been forced to labor for a livelihood might have been a commercial lawyer and rendered valuable opinions of real-estate titles, but money came to him without effort, and his subsequent position as banker was the result of "natural gravitation."

In 1874 the Indians took the Southwest. Tip McClure, of Medicine Lodge, got one scalp, brought it to Wichita, and convulsed the country. Governor Osborn came to Wichita, and he and Levy "swung round the circle," and couriers sent after the governor struck a hot trail of "cough-syrup bottles" along the road, followed it up, and caught the majesty of the state. To those who knew Levy in the early day, he is the same individual. Though contact with yaller gold was said to harden and steel and steal the soul, its effect on Levy has been molecular. Levy was for years president of the school board and the Wichita National Bank, and his administrations were marked by prudence, economy and good schools. (If these two last sentences did not entitle me to a "line of credit" at Levy's bank, I shall rewrite them under the head of "errata," with corrections as to facts, not fancy—

"And send him down the alley of fame,
Damned to everlasting shame.")

Levy's bank failed in 1894, and subsequently paid out in full. Levy and Colonel Lewis subsequently organized the State Savings Bank.

Levy, in early days, was the junior member of the firm of Steele & Levy, who were agents for the sale of the land grant lands of the A., T. & S. F. R. R. Co., and doing an abstract business where Sam Houck's hardware store now is. I remember one morning starting around to Levy's office to renew a note, and, to my surprise, the office was non est, it having been moved that morning before breakfast, across the street to the site subsequently occupied by Tucker's restaurant, and now by the State Savings Bank.

That old office was to Wichita's political circles the "Hoffman House" of New York. National, state and county politics were discussed, local politics of the city were made there, and all things pertaining to the weal or woe of Douglas avenue were talked over.

Greiffenstein, Sol Kohn and "Brother Maurice," N. A. English, Jim Steel and A. W. Oliver composed the cabinet that battled for Douglas avenue. The Occidental crowd was composed of Lank Moore, C. M. Garrison, Al Thomas, Hees and Getto, Hill and Kramer; Munger, J. R. Mead, J. C. Fraker, and some lesser lights, with a strong second on Main street, between Douglas and First, in Commodore Woodman and Sam, father of Adrian Houck, and Amos Houck.

The United States land office was at the corner of Main and Second streets; J. C. Redfield, afterward justice of the peace, was receiver; C. A. Walker, afterward cashier of the Wichita National Bank, was chief clerk.

The land office was moved to the building where Henry Schad's harness shop was, on West Douglas avenue, now the American Express office, and great was the rejoicing among the Douglas avenue crowd.

The postoffice was on Douglas avenue, where Jesse McClees' hardware store now is, and the Occidental crowd secured its removal to the Occidental Hotel, and one morning Douglas avenue awoke to the fact that it had lost the postoffice. Great jollification at the north end. Douglas avenue assembled its chiefs at Steele & Levy's office and proclaimed war—war even to death. The air was pregnant with trouble. Gloom sat high-throned on each forehead. Vengeance was the only thought, and, metaphorically, each man exclaimed:

"Blood shall manure the ground,
And future ages groan for this foul act."

Soon afterwards the postmaster was removed and M. M. Murdock was appointed. He was editor of the "Eagle," and officed in the Eagle Block, over Wallenstein & Cohn's store, now Boston Store, and all Douglas avenue went wild over the appointment. Tears of joy chased each other down the cheek, froze ere they reached the ground, because it was discovered that the postmaster was neutral and intended to "split the difference" and settle at a half-way point on Main street, where Sam Tanner's book store now is. Murdock "kept the word of promise to our ear, but broke it to our hope."

Among the first men to discover that Douglas avenue was the maintrunk highway, and that all else was tributary, was old Doc

Thayer, the proprietor of the "Gold Rooms," a bon-ton place to play faro and poker. Then Al Thomas bought the Bitting corner lot and moved to it the old building now on the corner east of Greenfield's clothing palace. Next Houck Bros. and J. P. Allen abandoned Main street; then the Douglas avenue toll bridge over the river was made free, and for a brief season North Main street threw up the sponge. There was many a scrimmage, first blood on one side, then on the other. Commodore Woodman rallied his clans and succeeded in building a bridge across the river at the east end of Central avenue, and this affront was not wiped out until Douglas avenue elected Jim Steele county commissioner, regardless of party ties, religious bias or personal likes or dislikes. Jim, pursuant to his implied promises, proceeded to tear down the Central avenue bridge "eye-sore" and distribute it to the various townships in the county, thereby restoring to Douglas avenue its natural trade and offsetting the rage of the north end by the solidification of the agricultural classes who obtained bridges without higher taxes. Jim practically paraphrased the great poet, and acted on the motto:

Let all the ends thou aim'st to be
Douglas avenue's, they God's and Truth's.

It may not be inappropriate to state that much chicanery is enveloped in the husk of "low taxes," even as "naked villainy is clothed with old odd ends stolen from holy writ."

I recall to memory some particularly sulphurous hours, when the stars put out their fires and gloom o'er the avenue seemed to glower; when the opening flower of prosperity was frost-bitten in May; when all rage before exhibited by the Rob Roys of the south end was as a whistle in an autumn hailstorm compared to the blast that echoed from the bridge on the west to the Santa Fe on the east. Douglas avenue had donated the court room and county offices to the county (the second floor over the old Eagle Block, now Boston Store). One morning the avenue "awoke and found it a joke, as the offices were still a'fleeing," and were located in the south room of the ground floor of the Occidental. "The sweet milk of concord was poured into hell," and the infant cottonwood boughs breathed a deep-mouthed refrain:

Over the land, scatter white sand,
To drink up the blood which shall presently flow.

But the First National Bank failed, owing the county a big deposit, and the county got the building at the corner of First and Main streets, and used same for court house many years. The star of empire again tended southward, and seeming peace reigned once more in the future city of the great Southwest. It is the opinion of the writer that if Sol Kohn, "Brother Maurice," Jim Steele and "Dutch Bill" had still resided in Wichita and continued in close business relations, and had assembled their cohorts, the present court house would not be where it now stands. Douglas avenue has not yet forgiven "Dutch Bill" for moving north of the avenue, and when Greiffenstein abandoned Douglas avenue it was as if a modern Coriolanus, in a fit of pique, had determined to scatter the ashes of his former triumphs and overthrow the temples which his genius had builded.

Prior to his going north, "Greiffenstein stock," like gold, during the war, was 285; subsequently it was as Confederate currency after the "silent man on horseback" had received the sword of the mirror of Southern chivalry under the "famous apple tree."

The men who builded Douglas avenue may forgive this move north, but they will never forget it or restore Greiffenstein to the pedestal in their esteem from which he fell when he crossed the Wichita rubicon and linked his future to the north end of the town. The names Greiffenstein, Douglas avenue and Wichita will ever be linked together.

For fear that the writer may be thought too partial to "Dutch Bill," let it be chronicled that William rented me an office when I had no money, and I would not be thought ungrateful. (See Twelfth Night, iii and iv.)

CHAPTER II.

As I recall the bar when I came to Wichita—i. e., the massive brow, the heavy jaw and capacious maw that lived by the law—it was composed of Henry Clay Sluss and James L. Dyer, who officed on the second floor front in a building on the corner of Main and First streets, which afterwards was "foreclosed" on by Sol H. Kohn and torn down and rebuilt on Douglas avenue, two doors east of the old "Eagle" office, and then occupied by Steele & Levy as an office, now owned by Governor Stanley. Charles Hatton was then Sluss' assistant. Dyer was ill and not in his

office very much. On the north of the building, near the Main street corner, was a painted sign, three by four feet, and on a white field in large black, black letters, appeared:

BALDWIN & STANLEY,

Attorneys at Law.

My recollection is that Stanley occupied the first room to the left on entering the hall overlooking Main street. The first time I remember meeting Oak Davidson was at Stanley's office on the last day of March, 1874, and he and Stanley were putting up an April fool joke on Mrs. A. H. Gossard, of Kansas City, Mo., who was then Alice Davidson, and a sister of Oak's.

In Sluss & Dyer's office I first met Judge Campbell, then a resident of El Dorado, and he was preparing an order for a special term of court, at which the great murder trial of Winner and McNutt was tried. Judge William Baldwin had an office, but I never knew where it was, unless it was adjoining the police judge's office, under the room afterward occupied by L. W. Clapp, and now by the Postal Telegraph Company, on First street. Albert Emerson was another legal mind. E. B. Jewett was probate judge and justice of the peace. Jacob M. Balderson was on Main street, second floor front of a two-story frame building, on the site of which is now standing the north of Walker Bros.' store. Old Bully Parsons was on the curbstone, and W. R. Kirkpatrick was over Houck Bros.' hardware store, in the building now occupied by Mueller, florist, on Main street. Judge S. W. Tucker and B. H. Fisher had an office on North Main street, second floor front, and I think the old Heller Building and 230 North Main street are on the same lot.

Moses Sampson Adams, of whom, even in the early days, Noble Prentiss once said in Wichita, "What! 'Mose' Adams, of Leavenworth? He has been in Kansas a thousand years." Moses had an office on North Main street, near the corner of Second street, in a building on the lot now covered by the Getto building or Clement Block, owned by Ed Vail. Adams was a gentleman, of fair ability, warm friendship, politically ambitious, and had some weakness which caused his fall; but to a young man, poor, green, friendless and obscure, he was "an oasis in a desert." He will ever be remembered by the writer as a kind-hearted gentleman

who made him feel that patience and industry would bring fees and be crowned with final success.

George Salisbury, Albert Emerson and John Stanard were also here, and George Salisbury will have a more extended notice. M. W. Levy and James McCullough officed in Steele & Levy's offices, where Houck's hardware store is. Subsequently came Howett and Brewer, H. G. Ruggles, George H. English and H. C. Higginbotham. After this the deluge, whose names are legion, and space forbids naming all of them.

HENRY C. SLUSS.

Few men in the West have had the strong pull on public confidence enjoyed by Sluss since the date of his residence in Wichita to the present time.

His enemies have given him credit for his integrity, real ability and personal power; yet without that magnetism which always attends the footsteps and waits upon the fortunes of the tribunes of the many-headed multitude. He has been spoken of as one whose rind of austerity, when punctured, discloses that he has but little dignity, but his husk is not broken save to his personal friends and intimates. From the beginning of that time to which southwestern Kansas' memory runneth not to the contrary, Sluss has been the one man of the Southwestern empire whose fame has filled the mouths of the people. To what this is attributable, is a problem with two or three unknown quantities, and is not within the province of this reminiscence to solve. We state the simple fact. There are those who believe, others who affect to believe, that popularity is but evanescent; yet the fact remains that no other man has had such recognition of forty years of even such evanescent power among a people, and whether this power is real or fancied, cuts no figure on results. Like counterfeit greenbacks in Texas after the war, they passed readily and without discount because all men had 'em. (The public can have no interest in knowing what compensation I am to have from Sluss for this sketch, yet "I do expect return of three times the value of this bond.")

Tradition has it that Henry Clay Sluss came to Wichita by wagon, and at sunset reached College Hill, o'erlooking the coming giant, then in its swaddling clothes, and was so impressed with the sight that the gift of divination, by Hydromancy, was con-

ferred on him, and it is said that he removed his dusty hat, wiped his "Bismarckian" brow, and exclaimed: "Thou art the realization of my sleeping fantasies, the extravaganza of my dreaming brains, rarest vintage, 'Nature and Fortune,' miraculous, peerless gem, have united in one homogeneous crystal to make thee great." He then turned to the teamster, with whom he was temporarily associating, his face pale as alabaster, the royal blood having in the momentary excitement abandoned his "graven front," and thus prophesied: "This royal infant, yet in its cradle, contains for Kansas a thousand blessings, which time shall bring to ripeness." In one hour more he had reached the "Buckhorn" Hotel, kept by Henry Vigus, near the banks of the Little river, at once announced himself a resident of Wichita, and in three days was an old settler.

Soon after, Sluss and M. M. Murdock formed the "David and Jonathan joint-stock company" which continued until Colonel Murdock was followed to his narrow, final home on the hillside overlooking the scenes of his mature manhood's ambitious struggles and labor, the situs of years of success and failure, triumphs and humiliations, and paid the last tribute that humanity can pay to a friend departed forever.

Sluss, in the Douglas avenue fights, was in a peculiar position, as he was the personal friend and attorney of the leaders of the north and south ends, but his conduct was satisfactory to both sides, and he lost no friends by it.

It is not the purpose of these remarks to estimate any live or dead man, or to criticize character, but, as it may add a keener pang to Sluss in the hour of death to know that if I outlive him, an estimate of him will be published, and, like Cromwell's portrait, I will "love the warts and wrinkles," as well as the noble forehead and lustrous eye. It is not the intention to write up the present or living men, but as Sluss had gone into a "cave" for five years when this was penned, he was made an exception.

CHAPTER III.

James L. Dyer, Sluss' partner, now judge of the City Court, when I first knew him, was supposed to be within a few months of death, but he was appointed receiver of the United States land office, and immediately gained a fair degree of health. Dyer, in

the early day, was considered a metaphysical, technical, profoundly scholastic, keen lawyer; an authority on all legal questions, and pre-eminently gifted in the knowledge of what did not constitute "usury." On the trial of a case one hot summer day, Dyer was once more confronted with the "irrepressible statutes" on usury. Judge Campbell, (afterward Dyer's partner), the natural foe to "money-lenders," was on the bench, and he rode "Jim" for two hours, even as the fairy tales relate how witches ride brooms. Dyer's feeble physical condition at last succumbed in the struggle, and he was carried home. The action was continued and later compromised. The real estate in controversy was the land known as Orme & Phillips' addition to Wichita. The debt sued for was \$2,000, and the land is now worth \$350,000.

Old "Bully Parsons" was a character Dickens would have delighted in. He could, in him, have embalmed for future ages a phase of attorneyship that is not recorded in history. Old Bully was suave—i. e., *suaviter in modo*. He was an embodiment of tranquilized, philosophical imperturbation. If possessed of emotions, he rarely disclosed them. The facts of the case (not the law) were his aim. If he had a case, and the papers were lost, no inquiry arose as to their whereabouts; a motion for substitution of papers was the remedy. He was distinguished by the outdoor practice of the law, and directed his mighty energies to the free instruction of witnesses in the art of how to state "a fact" so as to have the greatest weight. Sad as it may seem, he and Judge Campbell never won each other's respect, and on one occasion the judge offered to receive "Bully's" resignation as a member of the Wichita bar. Soon after this he left Wichita. He was indifferent concerning money matters, and was remembered after he left by many whom he had honored with his custom. He was about sixty-five years old, a splendid specimen of preserved humanity, white-headed, smooth face, blue eyes, frank in manner, and possessed of a smile as childlike and bland as the heathen Chinese embalmed in immortal verse by Bret Harte. The only oratorical effort I ever heard of in connection with Bully was on one Fourth of July, during the cattle trade. He made the address to the American Eagle, and commenced:

"Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, and Texas Men." Whether this was a mere "break," a sarcasm, or a compliment, will never be known.

CHAPTER IV.

Among the attorneys who herded with the contemporary paupers of A. D. 1874, yet was not of them, was one George Salisbury, who was descended from one Sylvester Salisbury, a soldier who died in 1680—whether B. C. or A. D., we do not know. At any rate, George reflected credit on his ancestor, and, had he remained in Wichita, he would be recognized not only as a lawyer, but also as an orator, if not as a private banker, as he was one to whom money came easy and stuck long. His dollars bred nickles as easily as a dead dog in August sun brings forth corruption. In his day he was the czar money-maker of the Arkansas valley. He was the realization of the “early-bird”-catching-the-worm theory. Gifted with untiring industry and a strong physical constitution, he was an engine that only needed a governor to keep it at its best work and on the track. He owned a two-story frame building situated on the lot where Paul Eaton was, north of the corner of Main and Douglas; received \$900 per year from the lower floor, had his office on the second floor, and lived in the back part.

Each day George arose with larks and bent his energies to earn money in the legal vineyard; each night when the sun sank to rest “like a ball of fire in the west,” he was richer. It was said of him, though no doubt the allegation was the machination of his jealous competitors, that he never asked a client for money until one hour, or at the longest half a day, before a case was called for trial. This course caused the client to “hump himself” for money, when George whispered to him: “No money, no trial.” It is said on one occasion a demand was made on a client, and the client, instead of getting money, got the ear of the court, Judge Campbell, and Campbell commanded George to go to the trial without a fee. George was formerly of the Lynchburg (Virginia) bar, a contemporary of John W. Daniel, author of “Daniel on Negotiable Instruments,” and George always said “John’s father wrote the book” and gave the name of it to “Jack” to help him along. George, in many well-contested cases, had wiped the earth with the said John W. Daniel.

George had learned in his youth, and had memorized, the old adage, “A timid man has no business in court”; hence he was a lion in his claims. The first time the writer called on George

Salisbury in his office, he was sorting dictionaries. He had about fifty unabridged ones and one hundred or more school dictionaries, and stated that he got them as a fee from a book peddler. When he went away from home on business or pleasure, he expected to do, and usually did do, enough extra business to pay expenses. On one occasion the writer was in Kansas City, and, hearing a voice enough like George to be a twin, stopped and ascertained that it was George. It seemed he went to Kansas City and, being delayed, attended police court and "plucked a goose" for expense money.

George had, for about one year, when pressed to trial, continued his cases on the plea that his wife "was in the way women are who love their lords." Common humanity permitted the case to go over, but after about one year had passed, S. M. Tucker called for an investigation by the medical profession. Tucker was a parent and had experience, and in the interest of science he desired an examination and report to the court.

George had for a tenant under his office a grocer. He also was possessed of a brother-in-law, who was about twenty-five years old, and a dependent on George for support. This creature was an habitual loafer at the grocery and an omniverous gourmandizer. He was not, however, like an ostrich, willing to tackle everything, but confined himself to fruits, nuts and candies, and was dead gone on gumdrops, and helped himself without stint on account of his relationship to the landlord. The grocer, as a matter of protection, obtained some croton oil at a drug store and dosed a layer or two of gumdrops in the brother-in-law's usual candy jar. The loafer soon came in, took out some drops, and by chance went upstairs and generously divided his candy with his sister, Mrs. Salisbury. If any member of the Salisbury family at that time was in need of physic, relief was at hand. The first thought was that the family was poisoned, but soon the facts were known, and the military figure of George, with a double-barreled shotgun was seen prowling up and down Main street looking for a grocer.

George's description, next day, of the agony of his family, after eating gumdrops, would have caused the "round-heads" to break ranks and lie down and roll over. The gumdrop fiend soon left the city. George removed to Colorado, became a cattle-raiser, was a candidate for supreme judge on the Greenback ticket, and in 1887 sold his lot, twenty by forty-five, on Main

street, for \$20,000, and said to the writer hereof that he cleared \$17,000 on the property.

George's lungs were unimpaired. Though it was said on one occasion that he had his lungs tested after orating for four and one-half hours on a nineteen-dollar law suit, he was leather-lunged—equal, in fact, to a blacksmith's bellows; ponderous in "logick," fertile in imagination, and his exuberant fancy supplied all lapse in proof, and to all this were united an untiring industry and a capacity for "shekel-gathering" the like of which hath not been seen in Wichita since George's shadow ceased to fall on Main street.

George's greatest forensic effort was in behalf of the liberty of the late Judge Balderston. In fact, this effort was not only his greatest effort, but it was the nonpareil effort of southwestern Kansas, and for vigor, lung power, length, and deafening applause, all of which were crowned with success, has never been surpassed.

Main street was electrified one day by the news that Judge Balderston was about to shoot Commodore Woodman. The judge was arrested and the prosecution was in the hands of Stanley and private counsel, Sluss and Dyer. The remaining members of the bar were for the defense. A council of war was held in H. G. Ruggles' office, in the basement of the old county building, corner Main and First street. Before the examination commenced, it was demonstrated that the justice's office was not large enough for even the defendant and his multitudinous counsel, and an adjournment was had to the old Eagle Hall. The house was crammed full; examination occupied all day, and the "genius licks"—i. e., oratory—was concluded after supper. Salisbury had argued something over two and a half hours, on a motion, and was awarded the main speech in argument. The effort lasted not less than five or more than seven hours. It was said the classical quotations and recitations from poetry consumed at least two hours, but the mob, the populace, the city was with him. He was cheered enough to breathe inspiration into a corpse, but he needed no inspiration. Dyer closed the argument, but the mob had already recorded a verdict of "not guilty," and the justice bowed not to the submission to the decree of the people, and the illustrious defendant was bound over and then discharged. The effort of George's was for years the standard of comparison on the questions of length, breadth and thickness.

During this examination an assertion was made that Judge Balderston was a dangerous, bold, bad man, too vitriolic to run at large in a community, with so many sky-aspiring church spires and other inspiring, Christianizing "infloences." George met the thrust thusly:

"Does your honor, on naked assertion, without proof—mere declamation, without argument—believe these charges? I have heard your honor called 'a stinker' an hundred times—aye, a thousand times. Men have openly and boldly charged your honor with being as corrupt as hell is hot, as base as angels are pure; in fact, as your honor knows, there is no epithet in language indicating human depravity, no term painting reproach, no lingual picture of vileness, that has not, at some time or other, been applied to your honor, and the sentiment has been cheered to the echo—and only your honor knows whether it is true or false. And yet, if these mere statements are to gain credence in our minds, we are bound to believe that your honor is the vilest of the vile; but I confidently assert that statements cannot change Judge Balderston's character, nor your honor's."

'Twas in this case that George grew restive under continued interruptions, during four hours of unwearied lung devotion to his client, and, turning on the opposing counsel, exclaimed: "Great God! If in my beginning you wiggle, squirm and squeal, what will you do at my close tomorrow?"

George's defense of a "nigger" charged with chicken stealing, based on the "custom and usage" of niggers to thus own chickens, and on their prescriptive right to so obtain them, backed up by the constitutional provision guaranteeing life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, was a great constitutional argument, but though rewarded with a verdict of "not guilty," it is hardly worthy of mention in connection with his greatest forensic effort in the case nominally presented by the "State of Kansas," but which was in reality *W. C. Woodman versus J. M. Balderston*.

THE FIRST DUEL IN WICHITA.

Soon after George Salisbury had made his legal "debut," and was engaged in his first case, against Judge S. M. Tucker, who for the first time in his life heard the florid style lately imported from Lynchburg, Va., and was astonished thereat. In

reply he used the "mountain howitzer jackass yarn" for an illustration. George acted the part of the "jackass" in Tucker's pantomime, to his great disgust and to the amusement of the crowd. George was as full of rage as a sodapop bottle is of fizz, and he went down upon the street and foamed like a dog with the rabies. His wrath grew with age, and on the morrow it filled his soul to overflowing, and sprang full-orbed into a consuming fire—even unto a "rage whose heat hath this condition, that nothing could allay it but blood!"—warm, hot, human blood.

George sought out some of his new acquaintances, and to them he "did a tale unfold" of the insult heaped upon him, and stated that if he was in Virginia he could solve the difficulty and wipe out the insult under a "code of honor" that yet obtained among the remnants of knighted chivalry in that civilized and enlightened country, formerly called "the mother of presidents." The boys said: "Challenge 'Tuck' to fight a duel, eh?" George said, "Yes." Here was a chance for fun, too rare to be neglected. George was at once informed that, notwithstanding the crude civilization of Kansas and the lack of refinement, there were some old and highly honored customs which, by mere accident, had crossed the Missouri river and found lodgment in the hearts of many, and among them was the "code of honor," dear to the hot blood of the South, longed for by George, and revered by the early settlers of the Osage Indian diminished reserve land, in which Wichita was situate.

The advice was given that dueling was the only way in which a man who had the discernment to know when he was insulted, spirit enough to resent it, and courage sufficient to demand satisfaction, could avenge himself on an aggressor, and that he should at once personally see Tucker and demand an apology or satisfaction under the "code of honor." The information was furnished that Tucker was a bombastic Orlanda Furioso, a veritable Falstaff, and that on being confronted with a master would fawn as a whipped spaniel and cower in a corner like a well drubbed slave.

George, conscious of his insult, clothed in the armor of right, and full well knowing the craven he would humiliate in the dust ere another moon shone o'er the town, sought Tucker in his office, and thus the bloody dialogue ran:

George—Judge Tucker, you insulted me on yester e'en, and

I my bed have not sought nor wooed slumber to mine eyelids. I have come, sir, to demand an apology.

Tucker—And if I do not, sweet sir, apologize, what then?

George—I then demand of your knightly hand that satisfaction and reparation which are due from one gentleman to another.

Tucker—Do I understand that you challenge me to fight a duel?

George—Aye! to mortal combat!

From proud Virginia's moss-grown tombs,
O'er which said tombs indigenous creepers have for
centuries bloomed,
My ancestors' bones, in chivalric rage,
Doth right briskly rattle, pressing me to engage
You to mortal combat! Deny me not!
Said ancestral bones aforesaid demand
That you apologize, or die by my hand;
Ample time shall unto you be given
To prepare to meet your God in heaven;
The said bones urge that I by chastisement
Prove my birthright ere the day be spent;
I "wired" said bones that, ere another sun be risen,
Mine foe should quaff my blood, or I'd drink his'n.
Lay on, McDuff, etc.

Tucker—By your code of honor, I have the choice of weapons, do I not?

George—Yes, sir; our seconds will fix the time and place.

Tucker—I will select cowhide boots, do away with seconds, and commence right now and kick you downstairs.

Whereupon Tucker arose and started for George, who fled down stairs amidst cheers and jeers, and thus the "code of honor" was derided and trampled under foot by one whose finer senses had been blunted by residence in the North, and who made mockery out of things revered and sacred in the eyes of ALL gentlemen. This was the only duel ever fought in Wichita.

Hearing, from obscure, as well as conspicuous, sources, that these reminiscences were historically incorrect, were overdrawn, contained personalities not in "good form" (see, however, Ward McAllister's book, volume I, page 9, footnote 3, left-hand column,

bottom of page, for justification), that this was simply rinsings of swinish ablutions, I deem it a pleasurable duty to explain my position, not censoriously, but with humility, but reference to a gray-haired mythological legend, which runs in my mind about as follows, to-wit:

JUPITER VS. THE BULL.

Once upon a time, while Jupiter was resting, and his daughter Minerva was practicing on some stringed instrument, the front door bell was pulled violently, and presently a card was brought in by Mars (Mars, by the way, was the putative son of his uncle and aunt), who said that one of the neighboring bulls was awaiting an audience on some matter of mighty and deep import; whereupon Jupiter ordered him admitted, and the Balaam's ass, bovine quadruped, stated, as a grievance, that one of the architects had builded a house contrary to the Romanesque style—in fact, was using the Doric. On hearing this, Jupiter, who was leaning carelessly against one of the columns supporting the temple, spat on the antique floor and, deftly wiping it up with his left sandal, remarked, in that oratund accent noticeable in the plays of "Cæsar," "Virginius" and "Coriolanus": "Thou quadruped, when thou hast builded in any style of architecture, then thou mayest criticize the builder who, having worn out his own ideas, resorts to ancient Greece. Get thee hence! Betake thee at once to thy cow harem, or, by Helios, I'll hamstringing thee!"

CHAPTER IV.

THE ARREST, TRIAL AND ESCAPE OF JESSE JAMES.

Practical jokes, keen, rough and ludicrous, are essentially on the frontier order of civilization. Frontier towns are boys; civilized cities are men. The young lawyer has ever been the subject of practical jokes, and the following yarn illustrates the degree to which a joke can be carried before the "jokee" is aware of it.

It will hardly be necessary to state that O. C. Daisy was one of the jokers, and that he performed his part perfectly. It is not intended to give the entire cast of characters that took part

in the burlesque legal-tragi-comedy, but only the star and principal support.

A young lawyer from New York City, a graduate of Columbia Law School, fine presence, good address, arrived one day, proceeded to make an inventory of the law shops of the town, and presented his card with his name. My recollection is, the card was as follows, but I may be in error:

• ALPHONSE DUTCHER, *Tourist*.

Alma Mater, Columbia Law School.

Matriculated March 18, 1878.

A. B., A. A. S., A. A. S. S.

Dutcher was a lawyer, and aware of it. It was not egotism, but simply that calm self-consciousness that buoyed Lincoln and Grant during the war, when others doubted—the serenity of an able lawyer who has a hard legal fight on hand, and yet feels his education has enabled him to triumph. The boys admired his self-assertiveness, yet pitied his ignorance. But the dog pities and plays with the rat ere he kills it. The chance for fun—rich, racy and rare—was too good to be forborne, and a scheme was incubated in the front room over Hyde & Humble's old store, where the Hub clothing store is. The principal characters were O. C. Daisy (our own Daisy), J. Herbert Wright (a lawyer reminding one of Sam Howe, of Howe & Mastin), who subsequently married a Canuck fortune and is now a milk farmer; Robert Lundy, a young lawyer from Springfield, over in Missouri; Major Yank Owens, who was a Kansas reminiscence since 1854 to death; Frank Todd, the sheriff, now dead; Jimmie Mohen, a policeman, now deceased; and the selected populace who were to be witnesses and jury.

The plan was to have O. C. Daisy arrested as Jesse James, placed in jail, and have him send for Alphonse Dutcher on account of his legal attainments, and place his defense in his hands. Daisy was arrested and apparently incarcerated. J. Herbert Wright was the commonwealth's counsel; Major Owens was the court; Lundy was a young lawyer who, being employed by "Jesse," was to hunt able counsel to assist him, and he employed Dutcher. The warrant alleged every crime in the decalogue, and ended with the grave charge that "Jesse James" was "Jesse

James." Dutcher obtained the warrant and immediately demanded a continuance, which was refused. The hearing was set for that night, and took place over the storeroom now occupied by Mueller, the florist, on North Main street. Jesse informed Dutcher that if he was acquitted he would pay \$5,000; if convicted, Dutcher should die; and a check for \$5,000 was given Lundy to deliver on acquittal.

At the hour appointed, the room was filled, and some of the crowd was "full." Judge Owens was the ideal frontier court—dignified, yet brusque. The illustrious malefactor was brought in, heavily ironed and securely manacled, and was seated by his counsel, while a cordon of bailiffs surrounded him to prevent his escape. The scene was a most impressive and solemn burlesque. Dutcher felt the dignity, gravity and responsibility of his position. Entrusted with the liberty, perhaps the life, of the greatest criminal in the West, he nerved himself to make a fight which would free his client, and by his success—

Send Dutcher's name
"Down the aisles of fame,"
Through cycles of time,
In syllables sublime.

The court, being the natural enemy of disorder, license and crime, bore down with a heavy cast-iron hand on the counsel for the defense, abused Dutcher, called him the Columbian Duke, and fined him for contempt for referring to the constitution of Kansas, which the court knew by heart, or any other legal authority not printed in Kansas. Dutcher sarcastically referred to Jeffreys and Scruggs as the court's guide. The court immediately claimed relationship to one of them by blood and the other by marriage. Dutcher at last forgot the respect due to the court, and roasted him. Judge Owens again imposed a fine, and ordered the lawyer's imprisonment, but, at the request of the commonwealth's counsel, delayed the punishment. The court fined Wright \$10, who, to make it appear bona fide, paid it to the court. The court kept this money, and Wright consented to pay for the beer for the crowd, as the court would not disgorge on any other consideration.

The major was at his best. At last he seemed to weary of the lengthened sweetness long drawn out, became irritated at the

nonsensical cross-examination, the purpose of which seemed to be to discredit the witnesses for the prosecution, and, rapping on the table with a revolver at least a foot long, delivered himself about as follows: "Mr. Dutcher, unless you have witnesses to establish the defendant's innocence, you may subside—simmer, as it were." Dutcher here referred again to the constitution as guaranteeing life, liberty, fair, impartial trial, etc., and to the fact that the presumption was innocence, not guilt. The reference to the constitution seemed to act on the court as a red rag in front of a bob-tailed bull, and the judge maintained that THIS has no reference to non-resident defendants, but to Kansas defendants.

Here the major stood up, cocked his revolver, and, addressing himself to Jesse, said: "If you are guilty, of which I have but little doubt, and have good and sufficient reason to believe, I'll be * * * if you slip through these hands by technicalities or quibble. Of all men, you are the one I am desirous of trying my hand on. It is my intention that no man shall be robbed or killed without the consent of this court, first had and obtained and provision made for its perquisites. Prisoner at the bar, stand up! What have you to say why you should not stretch hemp in the moonlight in one hour? God is merciful and just; this court is just; but in one hour from now prepare to meet your victims in purgatory. Justice shall reign!

"Order shall reign in Warsaw!"

"You have been the destiny of many men!

"Gaze now on your Waterloo!"

During this homily, Dutcher's face was a study. Impotent rage, abortive malice, chagrin, disappointment, indignation and astonishment—all were there, each striving for supremacy. He felt that he was undone, disgraced, whipped; yet he bore up with it as though it was but the fate of legal war, instead of the murder of his first-born. Jesse asked for a conference with his counsel, and asked him what he thought the chances were. Dutcher told him, none; informed him that immediate death was now upon him; that the interposition of the Almighty alone would save him. "What!" said Jesse, "must I die—be hurled into Pluto's dread domain, with all my sins clinging to my trousers? Oh, ye gods, this is 'tough'; in fact, it is simply * * *. I will never be hung. I will fight to death. I'll kill the court and Wright, and escape or die."

The court ended the *tete-a-tete* of Jesse and his counsel, and the argument was had. Dutcher made a thrilling, eloquent, logical argument, broken into fragments by the continual cross-fired interruptions of the court and state's attorney, and closed with an assertion that if this man was hanged in disregard of law, that the court would be a murderer and the state's attorney an accessory to the crime. He denounced the proceedings as more damnable than the trial of Sir Walter Raleigh; more disgraceful than any trial chronicled in the annals of legal butchery since the dawn of civilization. Through it all, Dutcher was unconscious of the part he was playing in a burlesque. He believed it was simply frontier law practice. When he quit, every man pitied and respected him, yet the roaring farce went on to its tragic and calculated conclusion. The grand tableau was yet to come, and even to those in the secret it was a blood-curdling surprise.

Jesse, manacled, sat with bowed head, as if lost in deep abstraction, "wrapped in the solitude of his own original turpitude," friendless and powerless, apparently, to free himself from the meshes of the law. Dutcher alone knew that Jesse was a baited lion surrounded by hungry hounds, contemplating murder ere he surrendered to death. The conduct of the court left no room for hope, no avenue for escape. Death's chasm seemed almost to open to joyously embrace the heroic and nonpareil felon of the nineteenth century. Dutcher was pale as washed snow; beads of sweat fell from his graven forehead. There was a stillness in the room—that momentary calmness that pervades space ere the tempest breaks in all its fury.

All at once "Jesse" sprang to his feet. A miracle had been wrought. His manacles had been loosened, his fetters had fallen. In his hands were revolvers, in his eye vengeance, fury, rage and defiance. He proclaimed that he was Jesse James; that he was once more an uncaged lion. "Woe to the sons and daughters of men! Woe to all when I roam again!" that the insults of the day were to be wiped out and credited in full at once. Tears were for babes; bloody revenge only for men. He hurled "chunks" of carefully accented, well rounded and emphatic profanity at the court.

In a moment all was confusion.

Mischief was afoot.

The lamps went out, tables were overturned, chairs tipped over, all as if by a magician. Jesse shot Wright, who fell upon

Dutcher; Mohen was shot, and fell on both of them. The court shouted: "My God, my God, I am killed!" In the darkness all were niggers. Jesse shouted to his imaginary rescuers "to kill, rob, burn." Shots were fired as if by battalion. Oaths, groans, yells and agonizing shrieks commingled with dread, and the deafening roar of the infant artillery, and above all was heard the voice of Jesse James, urging his men to do their bloody duty with honor to themselves and families. At last the door was opened, and the living, who expected in death to shortly lie, reached the stairway, shouting: "Jesse James has escaped! Jesse James has killed the court, his guard and the state's attorney! Run for your lives!"

Jesse's counsel found the door and stairway and landed at the bottom on some one's back, bareheaded and breathless. He ran across the street, exulting in the prowess of his client, and yet fearful that he might be shot by accident or hanged by a mob seeking to find some object on which to rest its resentment and discharge its fury. He reached his boarding-house, bathed in perspiration, weak from fear and excitement, and to the inmates thereof he did "a tale unfold" which, ordinarily, would have made "each particular hair stand on end" like the quills of a fretful porcupine. In truth, a devil unchained was roaming o'er the town, seeking not to escape, but to destroy.

From his report, delivered in unction and in fragments, between gasps, one would have supposed that the Plutonian realm had vomited forth its crowned inmates to revel on earth a spell; that the cabinet of hell, including the prime minister thereof, attended by Rhadamanthus, its dread judge, and all under the escort of Cerberus, the three-headed hell hound, had arrived in Wichita on a business tour to close the equity of soul mortgage redemption and obtain some fuel from flesh to inspire the then flame-fed, fattened, famished fires.

Dutcher's eyes, protruding 'neath his alabaster forehead, seemed as the ghastly light emitted from some tongueless, cavernous skull, when lighted upon "hallowe'en" by the stolen candle filched from some thrifty housewife's kitchen. Jesse James to him seemed an army, awfully arrayed and armed, boldly besieging Wichita, creating consternation, dealing death and destruction and devastation in its bloody track. Almost in his recital you could hear:

“The roar of cannons, whose deadly peals,
In repeating echoes, through the valley ring,
Starting and affrighting Midnight on her throne.
Feel the jar of bursting booms and falling beams;
Hear the dying groan, agonizing shriek and the shout
Of maddened men, inebriate with rage.”

At last, pale, exhausted and worn out, Dutcher sought his couch, and dreamed, no doubt, that he was “hair-hung and breeze-shaken” over the Calvinistic resort of sinners, and that “Jesse James” was tickling his toes to make him snap the slender thread that separated him from immortality.

When the morrow’s sun had peeped o’er College Hill, Dutcher arose and went to town to hear the denouncement of the bloody scene, but some one took him aside and brutally broke the enchantment that bound him. His heart was broken. He fled to his room and a few hours later the north-bound Santa Fe had one passenger, at least.

Dutcher reached New York by the limited express, subsequently removed to California, and was, in 1887, an attorney in San Francisco, with a good practice. To prove that he had ability and only needed to have the sap dried in him, Mr. H. C. Gager, one of our retired “boomers,” now in Galveston, was in San Francisco in 1887, and at a hotel was in the act of turning away from the register, when a fine-looking man spoke to him and asked him if he was from Wichita. Gager replied that he was, whereupon the gentleman said: “Do you know O. C. Daisy?”

“Who in Wichita doesn’t know Daisy?”

The gentleman then related this arrest, trial and escape, his humiliation and flight, and ended by saying: “Daisy ran me out of the State of Kansas. I owe him a debt of gratitude I can never repay. He cut my eye teeth and made me rich. Daisy can get rich playing Jesse James in New York City. You tell him that if he ever comes out here, to come and see me, and I will ‘put up’ his hotel bill for a year. I have seen a good deal of ‘plays’ in the East and West, but of all of ’em, I remember this Jesse James act best. The court was bluff, rough and tough, and though after I left Wichita, and before I settled in San Francisco, I witnessed some frontier justice proceedings, all were but a feeble copy of the presiding justice in the ‘Jesse James’ tragic comedy, wherein I played as an unconscious sucker to a full house.”

Recollections of those days in the early seventies crowd upon my memory. George Reeves, at that date clerk of the district court, was an autocrat in his own right, and at times felt that he was first assistant to the judge, and invested with judicial discretion, as well as ministerial functions, as witness the occasion when, while somewhat in "budge," he continued court, and the other occasion, when an injunction was wanted, he had chartered the card room of a saloon where the Hub clothing store is, and refused to grant any writ of injunction until 9 a. m. of the next day, and the judge had to help the litigant out by issuing an order.

A writ of injunction, in so far as the speed is concerned, is somewhat like the speed required of a doctor on interesting occasions in the home of a married man, or, like a pistol desire in Texas, it is needed at once or never.

During a session of court, when the present office of the Occidental Hotel was the court room, some of the foreign element desired to be naturalized, and appeared in the court room, where George was engrossed with business and worn down with "budge," and being somewhat annoyed at the intrusion, was not as amiable as might be desired. After George had made out the oath and had it signed, one of the new-born Americans expressed a desire to know what George wanted him to do next, and George gratified him, to the amazement of the voter and merriment of the court room, by saying:

"Hold up your right hand, keep your mouth shut and stand still. * * *."

During the year 1875, a long, lank, lean, cadaverous, sallow-complexioned, and jaundiced in disposition, heavy-jawed, herring-gutted, web-footed, sad-eyed and melancholy "Patience on a monument, smiling at grief" kind of human proved to be the most litigious cuss in the realm. His general appearance brought to mind the "roundhead cavaliers," and had he lived in Cromwell's day, he would have had a command. He was an involuntary "false pretense," as no one could be as sorrowful as he looked. He was a hybrid 'twixt an Arkansian and a Missourian, and he dressed in the garb of the Ozark mountains, and "chawed" the dog-leg of the Bald Knob region. He commenced law suits by the dozen and score, gave no bond for costs, and his signature was sufficient on a poverty affidavit, without the formality of an oath. He infested the clerk's office, and on divers and sundry

occasions had been adjudged to pay the costs, but failed to respond to any and all demands.

One sultry August day he entered the clerk's office, a room 23x100, on North Main street, with a handful of pleadings, and George, seeing in the dim vista more work and no fees, his naturally imperious spirit took fire. He, however, pleasantly enough, said: "Going to commence another suit, Mr. —?" and the sad-eyed transmigrated soul of the cavalier said, "Yes." George bade him be seated, and went and locked the front door, and then surrounded the remnant of better days, with a coal hatchet in his hand, and but for Bill Rouse, he would have "slew" the unhappy litigator.

It will not be necessary to name this general attorney, as the old members of the bar remember well a "law office" that drew the loose driftwood of society to it as a magnet draws iron filings, or a molasses barrel, flies. There was a "oneness" of idea, a commingling of soul's deepest thought, a meeting of a unities, a homology, as it were, an intersocial cognition and relevancy of purpose, design and act, " 'twixt" that office and a debtor who could not pay his costs. No "war hoss" ever snuffed the carnage afar, or sleuth-hound scented him with the celerity, directness and relentless ruth with which that "office" tracked the debtor to his lair and demanded his business for "business' sake," and afterward posed as the friend of the down-trodden and oppressed.

On another occasion, one balmy day in the early month of May, when green buds were swelling, when all nature seemed in tune, and each flower to vie to surpass its rival in freshness and beauty, and everything was in harmony, the blue overhead and the green underfoot, the tall cottonwoods on the river banks filled with bluejays, and their branches gracefully waving benisons over the town, their leaves whispering "peace on earth"—just such a day as Bret Harte sketched when he said, "It seemed as though the voice of God pervaded the earth and spoke to man as 'in the old days' "; just such a day as brings to mind a Sunday long ago, when we put our earnings into four hours of livery team, and, seated beside a vision of white swiss and blue ribbon, "wi' eyes o' heaven's own blue," and a voice soft and low, sweet and tremulous as a lute, and as thrilling as the dying cadence of a whip-poor-will's notes at midnight on the banks of a dark wooded stream, and we felt a desire to be good, not for our sake or God's sake, but for "white swiss' sake"—'twas on just such a day as

this, we say, that George, in regal splendor, appeared on Main street with a milky-white team and silver-painted buggy, bringing to mind the story of Phœbus careering across the heavens. He was dressed with taste and doting care. Of course he was at once the cynosure of all eyes, the envy and admiration of all beholders, and he was drunk enough to prove that there is a fine art in getting drunk as well as in other habits, combining at once, and artlessly, the suavity of the late Mr. Woodman, the taste of a Beau Brummel and the elegance of Chesterfield with the prodigality of Jim Fiske and the regularity of Coal Oil Johnny.

George wore a soft drab crush hat at an Emerald Isle angle, with pantaloons, gloves and shoes to match, a Marseilles vest with creamy glass buttons, and an immaculate and faultless shirt bosom and cuffs as pure as bleached snow, and he proceeded "to do the town," regaling himself at every saloon, and at last winding up at Al Thomas' grocery, at the Occidental Hotel, where, after some negotiation, he became the owner in fee of a full tub of eggs, which he immediately scrambled with his drab shoes, by dancing a jig in the tub until the egg was splattered all over himself, the floor and store, egg galore, then a marigold in liquor, a buttercup complete, a jumping daisy from head to foot, he jumped into the buggy and finished his ride, but he "cussed" some of the boys because he asked them to ride and they "egg-scused" themselves.

George's penchant for variation of the common and accepted manner of executing a "drunk" was simply high art, which blundering mediocrity should not essay.

Copies do not succeed, and the originality of the Reeves drunk robbed it of half its degradation and disgrace. Failing to be renominated for clerk, he shook us, and we understand he is now a "Missourian."

Lucifer fell from the battlements of heaven to hell, and Reeves left Kansas for Missouri.

Among the attorneys of the time was one Robert Jerome Christy, formerly of Pittsburg, formerly of Peabody, then to Wichita, from here to San Francisco, and from there direct to the bosom of Abraham. (He is dead and the view taken is charitable. It is not pretended that any advices have been received or that any bill of lading was made out with the consignment.)

Robert J. Christy was a dandy in the superlative and galore sense. He was not only an educated lawyer, but a graduated

spendthrift. If there be anything in the genus of spendthriftism which may be designated the belles lettres of prodigality, bold, imprudent, plausible and without any finish except the natural grain, Robert J. was the personification living embodiment of the ideal creation. He bought everything and paid for nothing, and stood off a monthly ornithorynchus with a charming naivete and careless abandon, a princely insouciance that disarmed suspicion and brought apologies for the seemingly unwarranted intrusion.

There was no asperity in his tete-a-tete with a bill fiend, no hauteur of voice or manner, no "unsettled account to be adjusted" or "credits not given," no "call tomorrow." The liquid diphthong "call again" seemed to melt as it fell from his cadenced and well modulated tongue, as the door closed on the retreating and abashed form of the creditor. He boarded his family at the Occidental, occupied the second floor of the Henry Schweiter corner, just torn down, for a suite of rooms, kept a carriage and buggy and sulky, boarded three horses at livery, smoked twenty-cent cigars, and sported a massive chattel mortgage on his library.

Robert J. did not succeed as a lawyer. Having become matriculated in the law in the bankrupt courts of Philadelphia, where the debtor expected nothing but a receipt, creditors hoped for nothing, and officials and attorneys divided the assets, Robert J. was annoyed at the grasping characteristics of litigants who desired to know the value of legal services before they contracted for them, thereby placing "brain" on a par with "bull beef, sugar, lard, salt and nails."

His creditors at last descended on him, e'en as the "Assyrian came down like a wolf of the fold," and seized his personal belongings in lieu of silver and gold.

Sluss sold his library for a law book company, and the boys gathered at the feast, thus providentially prepared, like ghouls at a graveyard, vultures over a carcass, and flies at a "'lasses" barrel, and greatly rejoiced thereat, saying one unto another exceedingly: "Ill bloweth the wind that profits nobody."

Christy had nice discernment in the selection of books, and introduced Pomeroy's Remedial Rights, Daniel's Negotiable Instruments, Freeman on Judgments, and other text work to the Wichita bar.

Christy's proud, imperious spirit was wounded. The iron entered his soul. His nonchalance was pricked. He pronounced

a curse on the community and left us, aye, forever. He was the natural ancestor of that large school of princely paupers which, like mushrooms, grew to maturity in a night in 1886.

No great recognized business incapacity whose shadow fell on Main street during that epochal milestone in our path called the "boom" approached Robert in gorgeousness of apparel, varied idiosyncrasies of purchases, or entire lack of display of common sense. He was the original of dazzling borrowed splendor, compared to which those who came after and battled with each other to wear his fallen mantle were as neophytes, notwithstanding some have high claims to distinction.

In my poverty, I was dazzled by this princely, insouciant, epicurean, nonpareil pauper—by his utter indifference to all things that bothered me, his carelessness about debt, his disregard of creditors, his seeming sublime trust in Providence, and "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" way of treating all ominous forebodings. Often during the "boom," when diamonds grew on shirt fronts that ne'er before had worn a pearl button, Robert's form before mine eyes seemed from the earth to rise. Yet mine eyes ne'er beheld his equal, but for this we have good reason, for, as was said after Napoleon: "Copies never succeed."

CHAPTER XVI.

BARON JAGS IN WICHITA.

HOW HE PRODUCED "OUR AMERICAN COUSIN" WITH LOCAL TALENT—BY ONE OF THE "TALENT."

By

KOS HARRIS.

(Reminiscential o' the days when Wichita was in th' gristle.)

"Gather roses while ye may;
Old Time is still a-flying;
The fairest rosebud of today
Tomorrow may be dying."

To recall the pleasurable past is to double our lives.

The preservation of the commonplace affairs of a town may be a waste of time, but time is wasted without effort. This humble preservative town history may be of no use to anyone, except as copy for a printer, yet this may be an amusement, a gratification, to those who follow after the present generation, and in the grandeur of the brick and marble Wichita yet to come, will curiously search out and trace its humble beginning, to adorn an ambitious illustration or point a moral. My office is not to instruct, but amuse, the present and those who in years to come will vote bonds on Wichita, hold its offices, give away its franchises, squander its revenues, swamp its taxpayers, and attend to business; those who will assist in keeping up our pro rata in the beneficent public institutions at Leavenworth, Lansing, Hutchinson, Winfield, Topeka and Osawatomie; those who will succeed the present generation and follow its noble example, its strong "lead" in annually lying about its personal property assessments and settling with its flexible, Goodyear-patent conscience by a plea of "hard times." This manuscript, written some years since,

hath been dragged to light to help make one "BLAZE," and as years come and go it and its companion pieces may be read with curiosity .

When the grown boys and girls of today,
Like weed and flow'r, ha' withered away,
As ripened grain, to seed have gone,
Unheeded by the coming throng.

In thus preserving "Our American Cousin,"
I cut this tale a monument,
Recalling how the past was spent,
When Wichita was young and need,
And life was bright as sparkling deed.

History is the record of the acts deemed worthy of preservation by the recorder of the acts. The history of a community by a theologian, statesman, biographer, gambler, washerman, scavenger or pawnbroker would be seven places or seven views of one place. This idea of history has been impressed on me by the several distinct and contradictory accounts of battles, all written by eye-witnesses; also I have noticed that a description of a dog fight by nine men—all pious men—impress one with the truth of the words of the Psalmist: "That all men and a percentage of women are liars." Hence, if I am not thought absolutely correct, I will forgive anyone reflecting on my character, and try to forget that he, she or it hath me a liar denominated. We are delighted when we pick up Macaulay's England, and read of little, common, ordinary acts of those entombed before America was discovered. When we read that King James said, "He was a bold man who ate the first oyster," we know that oyster-eating was a new thing at that date in England; otherwise the remark would not have been made. It is the preserved "tittle-tattle" of royalty that enables us to know that the "Elizabethan ruff" worn in society was adopted to hide a scrofulous royal neck; that the disease "king's evil" was common scrofula; that the touch of royalty alleviated, if it did not cure it; and that old Sam Johnson sought the king to cure his ailment. To the good miller all grain is grist, and common things of yesterday, today and tomorrow, in the years to come, may give pleasure to the many-headed multi-

tude who shall walk the streets we have trod, when we shall have put on the robe of immortality and twang our harps in the New Jerusalem.

'Tis a pleasure to me to know that Lincoln, at the little town of Elwood, Kan., made a speech on December 1, 1859. Some day that humble place will be rescued from obscurity by a monument commemorating the first speech of Lincoln in Kansas, even as Stratford-on-Avon is now made historic and amaranthine in the mind of mankind. The Elwood speech of Lincoln was the speech subsequently delivered at Cooper Institute, New York, and was the keystone of the campaign of 1860.

When the preservative generation comes to Kansas, Elwood will be renowned, and a monument will be built on which will be cut in marble:

"Thy name shall live while time endures,
And men shall say of thee:
'He saved his country from its foes,
And bade the slave be free.' "

When a true life of Phil Sheridan is written, it will not be complete without the record of Sheridan and Bill Greiffenstein's meeting at the Occidental Hotel in Wichita, and the story of Sheridan's proclamation of one thousand dollars for "Dutch Bill's" head.

Wichita as yet has not evolved a man with a destiny—a man marked for earthly immortality. Of course he may be here, incog. as it were. He may flash yet on us as an arc light, and soar from oblivion's cruel, relentless billows; but the knowledge of these things has led me, in an humble way, to record the production of the "American Cousin" in Wichita, by local talent.

I am aware that nothing herein is instructive, but it is in a measure illustrative of a phase of Western civilization, commendable in the fact that people from every nation, clustered on "buffalo grass" and surrounded by "sunflowers," deprived of better things, forget for a day the business of "bread and butter," and, for amusement—

"Strut and fret one hour upon the stage."

One day Charley Stanley came into my office. I think it was

"in the early month o' May, 1881, when green buds were a-swell-in'." He had for his personal baggage a thin, stoop-shouldered cadaver, blasé in tout ensemble, "short" on hair, "long" on imperial mustache and Napoleonic goatee. He was "a actor," had played at Covent Garden, Old Drury, and Madison Square; was en roate to "Frisco"; had stopped off at Wichita to witness the bold stride of the cosmopolite clustered on the left bank of the Arkansas, ere he wended his way to the Pacific sea. To inculcate in the mind of Wichita a taste for histrionic science, he was willing to put before the public the play of

THE AMERICAN COUSIN.

He to be the main planet, the cynosure and the star around and about whom some of Wichita's humble souls might mildly twinkle. He was going to "star" for cash—we of Wichita, for glory. He was our idea of Lord Dundreary, and at rehearsal Charley always addressed him as "me Lud." He (Dundreary) presumably had parents—for aught we knew, a father and a mother, and also a grandam, too. His real name we knew not, and cared less. He could, at that ambitious day in Wichita, have passed himself off as

BARON JAG, EARL OF JIM JAMS,

From Deliriumshire,

In the County of Tremens,

Hengland.

Of couse the manikin lived, but where, no one inquired. He also drank. This usually took place at the old Turner Hall Opera House, at rehearsal. The evidences of this bibulous habit were found in his dressing-room in the shape of forty empty half-pint bottles of "Old Crow." His clothes were a misfit, as if he had broken into Dr. Jekyll's and Mr. Hyde's wardrobe and tucked himself out with the clothes of both men. He was a living exemplification of the old saw:

"Through tattered clothes, small vices appear."

His hat was a sawed-off plug of 1871 and 1872; his coat was a double-breasted Prince Albert, big enough for Fritz von Schnitzler. His pants—pantaloons—breeches—(now I have it) trousers—were in and of themselves a speaking tale of splendor and glory, pawnshops and jags, recalling the pauper's tale of

“FROM THE HEIGHT OF A DIAMOND TO THE DEPTH OF A PAWN TICKET.”

Charley and I pitied the poor devil, promised our assistance to him, went in the back room and “rolled over.” Charley had an inspiration (he was often inspired, and made the sad old world laugh at his original and genuine witticism), and suggested that we have him recite to us, so we could be sure we were to have the guidance of a true compeer of McCready, Booth and Garrick. He recited; we simply “died.”

Charley was to attend to the securing of talent, to assist and arrange the caste of characters and the meeting of the troupe. After some preliminary work, Charley notified me that the great combination was to have its first “sitting” and distribute the parts to the actors and actresses.

We met. The girls viewed the “GRATE ACTOR” with curiosity, if not disdain, some surprise, and a little disgust. He (the great actor) was loaded to the guards with “tonic,” aromatic spices and loud perfume, that, like the historic snore, “filled the room from ceiling to floor.” We debated, deliberated and dallied, and at last incubated, budded, flowered and fruited the following caste of characters, and adjourned:

Lord Dundreary.....	Baron Jag and Earl of Jim Jams
Sir Edward Trenchord.....	Col. H. W. Lewis
Harry Vernon.....	Judge W. P. Campbell
Captain De Boots.....	A. F. Stanley
John Wickens.....	Kos Harris
Florence Trenchord.....	Ella Fuller, Mrs. Finlay Ross
Mary.....	Rilla Keller, Mrs. Elmer Beach
Georgina.....	Libbie Israel, Mrs. Jake Hollinger

The caste of characters is from vague recollection.

It will be noted that in the above caste Stanley and Harris had to earn their living "by the sweat of their face, and could not always be on hand at early lamplight for rehearsal. One night "Baron Jag" roasted us for being late, and Charley said unto him, in a comical, Iago-like voice: "Sir, we had to dine after our day's work was o'er. If we had only to drink a half pint of liquor, we had long since been here."

TABLEAUX.

(Note.—In the language of "Little Britches," when Charley and I meet and "loaf around the throne," I expect to laugh o'er Baron Jag and Earl of Jim Jams.)

The rehearsals were had, and the play came on. In one scene the "hevy villun" was to throw the hero down and "they wuz" to apparently fight, even as tho' unto cold, clammy death—worm-banqueting death. The villain and hero, it will be noted, were about the same physical proportions, and the villain agreed with Charley and me to make the hero "win his spurs" on the eventful night by holding him to the sword. When the moment came which was to witness the struggle 'twixt heroism and villainy, the tragic scene in which virtue was to triumph o'er vice, Charles and I hid in a wing to see the fun, and see how hard virtue would have to struggle ere it overcame vice. The audience, which was made up of complimentary ticket-holders, beheld the struggle, but knew not how near rampant vice was to victory. Charley and I concluded vice triumphant would be "fatal variance" from the usual denouement, but it would be fun. We thought the hero would be in a quandary as how to end the play, when vanquished. We had rehearsed for fun, and wanted to break the record on heroism, but the swelling cords on the hero's neck, and his loud whispers to the villain to "let up," aroused the audience, and at last the villain permitted virtue to rise, amidst cheers, to the disgust of Charles and the writer.

"In great beads on the hero's face the sweat did stand."

Lord Dundreary was so overcome with the size of the audience that he bade us good-night in glee, and when the morn stole upon the night he went to Charley's office to receive his *douceur*, *pourboire*, *backsheesh*, *honorarium*, and, whilst waiting, suggested a second night's play. The box receipts were not enough to pay expenses. Charley and I had prevented an empty house by issuing at least one hundred complimentary tickets. The rage of Baron Jag and Earl of Jim Jams was awful to contemplate, fearful to behold. In fact, we feared his consuming rage might his existence dissolve and send him unshrined to a bar where "Old Crow" was not handled. The rage of Alecta and Tisiphone in mythology was as sweet milk to carbolic acid compared with the rabid frothings of "Mi Lud." A she tiger robbed of her whelps could not have roared in greater anger and distress than did Baron Jag on the denouement of his first and last appearance on the "boards." As he left us, Charley asked him about the second night, and—

He turned and blew a bugle-blast,
A lion's detonating roar;
His rage was foaming at the crest—

We feared wi' us he'd mop the floor.

Though we had courage, we also had wisdom, sagacity, prudence and common sense, and remembering that "speech is silver and silence is gold," we immediately adopted the gold standard and left him alone in his glory, and went out in the back room and from thence into the card room of Tom Jewell's place, where Jim Steele was playing rounce. At our suggestion, Jim stopped the game long enough to go into the office and order "Baron Jag" to slope, decamp, skedaddle, absquatulate, abjure the realm, flee the bailiwick. When Charles and I returned, the "Baron" was "nit." The place so shortly before redolent with baronial fumes and flavor "knew him no more forever."

The Baron's tout ensemble was in such a wretched state of general as well as particular decadence at our first acquaintance that Charley's guarantee procured him some apparel, which appeared as follows:

May, 1881.

"Baron Jag," per guaranty A. F. S.

In account with

GOLDEN EAGLE CLOTHING STORE.

To 1 shirt	\$2.00
" 1 pair hose50
" 1/2 doz. cuffs and collars.....	1.50
" 1 tie75
" 1/3 doz. handkerchiefs	1.00 \$5.75

After the show, the melodrama, Charley prevailed on the opera-house manager to declare a dividend in our favor for the amount of the above bill.

Charley at that date was at work for Jim Steele, in the room under Governor Stanley's present law office, on Douglas avenue.

Thus endeth the history of the production of "Our American Cousin" in Wichita, in the ambitious days 'twixt the grasshopper and the "boom."

The preservation of this memorabilia may be amusing in after years, when some human question box—i. e., some "little tot"—says: "Grandma or grandpa, did you ever play on the stage in Wichita, and was Lord Dundreary drunk?" To those grandparents who may be asked, and desire to be exactly truthful, "nothing extenuating and naught set down in malice," the writer hereof saith that they are at liberty to say, "Baron Jag" was "fuller" than a "guse, drunker than a biled owl," slept that night on the floor in a real-estate office, and when the moon had paled and the rosy hue of dawn o'erspread the eastern sky, the atmosphere of that room was simply diabolical, proving to all mankind possessed of noses that 'twas not the smell of posies, aromatic perfumes or roses.

CHAPTER XVII.

WICHITA PRESBYTERIANISM AND ITS AMENITIES.

By

KOS HARRIS.

Memory is the mind's storehouse; some use a closed vault, others a well-ordered room, and treasure away things valuable. The generality of mankind use an attic in which "things" are pushed in heterogeneously, and, when called for, the valuable and the worthless are so mixed as to be almost inseparable.

Properly speaking, this tale should be entitled "Wichita Presbyterianism, as Seen by a Local Goat in 1874-1875."

Though it was "foreordained" that I should write this piece, it was not made known to me until Thanksgiving Day, 1898. Having received the information, I now proceed to evolve the facts, unravel the ball of memory. Germane to this piece is the interesting fact that Presbyterianism and grasshoppers landed in Kansas as twins on July 19, 1820, according to my Kansas history. Presbyterianism stuck; grasshoppers, like "ager," have been intermittent, but are well remembered.

When I first became acquainted with Presbyterianism in Wichita, services were held in Old Eagle Hall. The memories of that festooned Eagle Hall are multifarious and intensely cosmopolitan in their nature. As a church, convention hall, reception room, theater, opera, spelling school, board of trade room, court room, council chamber, church festival and fair room, political speaking place, it filled the bill on all occasions. This hall was on the second floor at the left of the stairway over the Boston Store. The room was about fifty by one hundred feet. At the top of the stairway there was a box office three feet square. At the south end there was a stage three feet high and adorned on the front with a dozen dirty, dingy, smoky, murky old coal-oil lamps, that kept the audience in hot water at any evening show for fear that the old drop-curtain would catch on fire or knock over a lamp. This

fact alone kept an audience awake, no matter how dull was the play. There was no life insurance agent residing here then, and people were more careful of their lives than since the "boom." The pulpit was on a movable platform, and was as handy as a pocket in a shirt. The Rev. John P. Harsen was the Presbyterian minister. Mr. Harsen was a pioneer man. He was fitted to deal with all classes. He antagonized no one, and was a friend to all—black, white, copper-colored or tan, Jew or Gentile, rich, poor, good, bad, moral or vicious. He was a student, a pastor, but he was not a pulpit orator. His every-day life was a sermon. Mr. Harsen always reminded me of the following lines of Goldsmith:

"Truth from his lips prevailed with double sway,
And fools who came to scoff, remained to pray."

* * * * *

"He tried each art, reproved each dull delay,
Allur'd to brighter worlds, and led the way."

The church, as a body, approved the forced resignation of Mr. Harsen, but the people of Wichita condemned the abdication, and another generation shall pass away ere Harsen will be forgotten and the church ceases to be criticized for his removal. (Note.—This is a pure goat view or guess.) There was no day or night too hot or cold to prevent his leaving his fireside or home to give solace to the wretched or dying or perform the last sad rites over the body of the sinful and almost abandoned dead. His spiritual make-up was of Him who said: "Neither do I condemn thee; go, and sin no more."

Mr. Harsen did not, perhaps, possess those ministerial characteristics required to hold a large and wealthy church together; but he was possessed of a faculty to gather under one roof the sheep of his fold and the morally inclined goats, and form the constituent elements of a future church. He perhaps belonged to a pioneer civilization, where one-story wooden houses are fashionable, where poverty is only an inconvenience, and by reason of its universality is robbed of its humiliation, general condemnation and consequent degradation. Mr. Harsen owned 160 acres of land east of Wichita, afterward sold to Harry Hill, the "Oklahoma Boomer," and manager of a Wild West Show that broke every man connected with it, and had the proud distinction of being attached by creditors a greater number of times than any

other show that ever existed. It is said that the route of this Wild West Show can be traced from county to county and from state to state by examination of the court and chattel mortgage records, without any other data to go by.

Unless I am at fault in my recollection, the music of the Presbyterian church in 1874 and 1875 was under the charge of Mrs. Catherine Russell, Mrs. Emma J. Simmons, Mrs. Theodore Parham, C. S. Caldwell, W. B. Mead, Mrs. Mead and Miss May Willard. Mrs. Simmons was the mother of Mrs. Floy Gallant.

As I remember, the regular attendants at the church in those years were A. A. Hyde and wife, the Misses Brown, J. H. Todd and family, Pattie Todd, wife of George C. Strong, Robert E. Lawrence and wife, Henry W. Lawrence and family, W. S. Corbett and wife, J. H. Black and wife, George E. Harris and wife, D. A. Mitchell and wife, A. J. Cook and family, Robert Cook, I. D. Fouts and family, C. S. Caldwell and family, Mrs. Hunter (Mrs. J. H. Black's mother), W. B. Mead and family, W. G. Hacker and wife, Fred Martsolf, Mrs. Harry Lindsey, George E. Kirkpatrick and family, D. A. McCandless and family, J. G. Rode and family, Will Reese and wife, John Reese and wife, Mrs. Appleby, Mr. and Mrs. Throckmorton, Mrs. Charley Davidson, Ralph Stevens, Mrs. Carl Graham, May Willard, Emma Markham, Mrs. S. G. Butler, J. M. Steele, W. C. Little, John G. Dunsecomb, John Lawrie and family, Lee Nixon, Mrs. Amy Sayles, A. H. Gossard, William West and wife, Mrs. R. H. Roys, Mrs. L. B. Bunnell.

The young men seen there often, occasionally, monthly, quarterly and semi-annually were Harry Arrowsmith, Will Hillis, Walter DuBois, Jim McCullough, Frank Todd, Fred Dutton, John I. Stewart, Kos Harris, J. T. McMillan, G. H. Herrington, John M. Allen, Amos L. Houck, Joseph Askew, E. B. Jewett and W. R. Kirkpatrick.

As one looks over the present church, indulges in retrospection, unrolls the scroll of the past, he realizes the ravages of the gnawing tooth of time on matron and maid, and him who came in the pride, strength and glory of ambitious manhood to do honor unto Him who walked upon the sea, who died upon Calvary ages before civilization penetrated the American desert and builded homes and fashioned a city at the junction of the St. Peter and St. Paul (Big and Little Arkansas rivers), where Coronado bivouacked his Spanish buccaneers in his march to find and conquer the kingdom of Quivira, plunder, ravish and sack the

"Seven Cities," and float the banner of Castile and Aragon on the heights of Cibola.

The then older men, the patriarchs of this church, ha' gone where pre-emption and homestead contests are unrecognized, where town building is a lost art, and the local rivalry locating a county seat, of finding a site for a mill, a depot or postoffice is a dead science; where toll-bridges are not required. On the eastern hill, from whose crown our own Henry Clay Sluss first beheld the "Happy Valley" and pronounced his prophetic apostrophe on the royal infant at his feet, these pioneer patriarchs sleep. There were plainness, bluntness, directness and honesty in their every-day life that commanded reverence, even in a generation where "Honor thy father and thy mother" is a repealed statute.

"If death unto the noble dead
Is sweet as life to them that live,
Why mourn for those who worms ha' fed,
Or salt the earth wi' bitter tears?"

If Christianity is true, the dead patriarch is the happy patriarch, and is now in attendance at an eternal and universal world's fair compared to which the Chicago exposition was as feeble, meager, vapid and trashy a copy as the tin crowns of the king of a one-night-stand show in a cove oyster town is compared with the coronet of the Dutchwoman who rules Great Britain.

Of others in this church, one may say:

"They are fast achieving the silver livery of age, and though not clean past youth, yet have some smack of age in them."

When one realizes that the babes christened in this church have grown to manhood and womanhood, even since Dr. Hewitt's time, we realize that the whirligig of time is still a-spinnin'. One young married woman had only one regret on her wedding day, viz.: that she could not be married by the Presbyterian pastor, Dr. Hewitt, who had baptized her when she was three months old.

This life-growth affection by children for a pastor is the outgrowth of the system of the selection of pastors. To our mind, the "circuit-rider" system is not conducive to the building up of bonds 'twixt pastor and church.

"With tendrils strong as flesh and blood,
Round which our past-time and happiness grow."

I have read in history of family doctors and family lawyers who, from sire to son, three generations or more, have been in one place. The pastor in a church should be as fixed as the pulpit, metaphorically speaking.

The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 4, 1876. My recollection is that the day was the hot, hotter, hottest, dusty, dustier, dustiest, torrid, torrider, torridest day in Kansas. In fact, it was a catoose, serifacious, sevaguous day. These last three words express the positive, comparative and superlative degree in anything as to fineness, quality, length, breadth, thickness, good, vile, gorgeous, etc., etc. Any one needing an adjective to express any differentiation of a word can use these instead of hackneyed and commonplace terms which are worn thin by the abrasion of millions of tongues for ages.

The corner-stone contains the ordinary things put in corner-stones since the day Hiram of Tyre consigned his rafts of cedar and cypress to Solomon and drew a sight draft for corn and oil to liquidate the balance of trade, thereby establishing amicable trade relations between them. (Blaine, no doubt, was aware of this when he flew reciprocity's eagle some years ago.) In addition to the "staple articles" put in the corner-stone hereinbefore mentioned and heretofore referred to, there were the following "new goods," to-wit:

- 1 letter to posterity.
- 1 letter to local editor Wichita "Eagle."
- 1 letter to money order clerk, postoffice, Wichita.
- 1 letter to registry clerk, postoffice, Wichita.
- 1 letter to descendants of Frank Yike and Mary Carpenter.
- 1 letter to descendants of J. P. Harsen and wife.
- 1 letter to descendants of W. J. Hobson.
- 1 letter addressed "To any white man having the name of Murdock, at Wichita, Kansas. If none at Wichita, then to any man in Kansas of that name."

M. W. Levy deposited two silver half-dollars.

All of the above are to be opened in A. D. 1976.

Frank Yike and wife lived on the West Side. W. J. Hobson was a bridge builder and clothing store man. He and Morgan Cox, partners as Hobson & Cox, bought out Hays Bros.' clothing store, then known as "Oak Hall," at 103 West Douglas avenue, in the fall of 1874 or 1875.

Mr. Harsen received a salary of \$800 per year, which pre-

vented his wasting his substance in riotous living. He received \$3,600 for his claim, afterwards sold to Harry Hill. Many of his friends regretted that he did not hold his claim until the "boom" and lay it out in town lots (and then go "busted"?).

This church was organized March 13, 1870, on Waco avenue, above Oak, at the Munger House. The charter members were: John M. Steele (Jim Steele), E. A. Peck, William Finn, W. H. Gill, William Smith, R. M. Bowes, B. S. Dunbar, Lucy Greenway (wife of D. R. B. X. I. Y. Greenleaf), Ella Boggs, Margaret, Mary and Anna Peck and Mrs. Amy Sayles (wife of M. A. Sayles and daughter of A. J. Cook). William Finn now lives at Sedgwick City.

In 1870 this church held services in a livery stable, and the flies—the big blue-bottle flies, the pestiverous gadflies, the rampant "hoss-flies," the blue-tail flies, blue-green flies, flesh, black, cheese, forest, bee, spider, wine, bat, Hessian, onion and stable flies, and "all and singular" the multiform, the gregarious and annoying insects of every "name and nature and kind whatsoever" that bother man, woman and beast, that infest the fauna and flora of stables, that live, move and have their being, that are born, baptized, educated, married and rear progeny, in, under, around, about a stable, and die and go to the field Elysian of "Flydom"—all made it their particular business on Sunday to get up early and wash and dress their "kids" so as to be sure of a parquet or dress-circle seat on a large, glassy bald-head, at eleven a. m. and then hold the fort from the solo or voluntary to the common singing, on through "preachin'," on and on to the collection, aye, verily even unto the doxology.

And when the services were o'er,
And the flies, the said flies, galore,
Emerged in a body from the door,
And in the air did soar,
The weary passer-by wont to exclaim,
That a hive of bees had swarmed.

Editor's Note.—This livery stable incident is not based on any well authenticated historical sketch, preserved in the archives of the church, or in any musty tome, enveloped in Kansas "Loam," but is reasoned out from cause to effect, just as the

scientist, from a bone, constructeth an animal; and gives it characteristics and habits.

Later, afterward, subsequently, according to the chronology of the church, the church caused to be builded a tabernacle on the corner of Wichita and Second streets, at the place where the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company now stops its passenger trains. The said tabernacle was a well built building and in keeping with the size, wealth and social position of the congregation. This church was not a small, insignificant, "dinky" affair, as many suppose. It is not the building now used by the Missouri Pacific railway as a place to sell tickets and store baggage at Wichita and Seconds streets, as people generally believe. A person of even limited observation would, on viewing the said place, reach the conclusion, at sight, that a respectable church body, corporation or association would not have build such a "wood-shed" affair for church purposes, even in the early cottonwood-lumber, saw-mill days, when "wet-pine" was a luxury and seasoned hardwoods were as far beyond the dream of the dwellers in the "Happy Valley" as alabaster and onyx are now barred in the nocturnal visions of a "busted boomer" who was on the bullish side of the market in from 1886 to 1888.

Later on the tabernacle was conveyed to the Catholic church and was its church building for some years and until the same was transferred unto the colored people, and it is now the Centropolis hotel on Main street, between Elm and Pine streets. Many memories cling 'round this building. Children who were christened in it have grown to man and womanhood and have been united in it until death us do part; from it, the tenement of clay hath been borne to the silent city on the eastern hill; in it many have turned their backs on the world, flesh and devil and pushed forward, onward, upward, to a nobler life, in happy, sober earnestness. From the day it was builded until the present time, a change, a transformation hath taken place, which the most sanguine never imagined; since its construction a single lot has sold for more money than the entire townsite at that date would have brought in cash. Three of the elders of this Presbyterian church are of legal age as elders, viz.:

Robert E. Lawrence, January 8, 1871.

C. S. Caldwell, October 13, 1872.

D. A. Mitchell, December 13, 1874 (since deceased).

I am very proud to be a "goat" where elders "hold their job" from generation to generation, since the Australian ballot has become a law, and the congregation, without fear, favor or espionage, can vote its individual sentiment.

The history of this church since 1876 I leave to others. I long since determined to preserve a short sketch of this church, for the generation to come after us.

Note.—I acknowledge indebtedness to Judge D. A. Mitchell for historical data. He furnished the "wool" but the carding, as well as the "shoddy" are from mine own factory and loom. Much good wool hath been ruined by poor dye and bad looms, and forced on the "trade" by the loud pattern and glib salesman.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE BOARD OF TRADE OF WICHITA AND HEREIN.

By

KOS HARRIS.

“Of many worthy things which I fain would rescue from quick oblivion.”

Long since I resolved to preserve a sketch of the board of trade. Many facts are now in the realm of legend. In this zone men differ; I give only my own views, subject to criticism, carping and contradiction.

To destroy wild beauty, toil, fret and die,
The pioneer came, with strong arm and brain;
The vision that runs to the western sky,
Forever was o'er on the wind-swept plain.

Our sympathies control judgment; opinions are formed by association; facts take on the hue of wishes; fancy and imagination supply lapses—in the chain of a narrative—until, as Shakespeare hath it:

“Made such a sinner of his memory, to credit his own lie.”

When this last stage of the disease is reached, we are qualified as a witness—and ready to swear to all we relate.

By question and association, the things I recite were unto me divulged. When I landed at Wichita, Uncle Jake Pittinger took me to Will Reese's carpenter shop on North Market street and I negotiated for seven wet pine planks, one inch thick and twelve feet long, and the same were put on the walls of a room nine feet wide, twenty-four feet long and twelve feet high. (I could have arranged the square feet of this room better by laying it on its side.) If I had placed these shelves on North Main street, I would have had a different destiny. “The lottery of my destiny barred the liberty of choosing” where I would place those shelves.

Greiffenstein rented rooms on credit; North Main street demanded cash. Thirty days on Douglas avenue colored all my views of Wichita to such a pitch that three North Main street men together on Douglas avenue was in itself a suspicious circumstance, demanding explanation.

There was no "Board of Trade" then; there were two cliques striving for the mastery of a street. We talked, then, not of building a city, but of building a street.

To my mind there was one main figure in Wichita, and that was Greiffenstein; others had an avocation, "Dutch Bill" played "rounce," "the devil among the tailors" and smoked an admixture of tobacco and perique—and deliberated. Douglas avenue was his business. It was his "first born," the "apple of his eye," and all the ends at which he aimed were Douglas avenue. The Iron-gray German was a wizard, who rubbed his "snow-blind eyes" touched his enchanted meerschaum-wand, and in the dissolving circling clouds of ascending smoke, beheld visions of a future Douglas avenue, akin to the streets that the genii of Aladdin's lamp created at his call. He was not a talker, but a thinker. In fact he was a

"Sworn enemy to long speeches,
And never given to repartee;
His deliberation was long,
His conclusion sure and strong."

Monticello, The Hermitage, and Greystone have each had their pilgrims, but Greiffenstein's old home on South Water street, now Forum, was to the Douglas avenue men "Strawberry Hill," and thither on Sunday afternoon the cavaliers of the avenue went to plan the week's campaign.

On the, then, wide-open porch, surrounded by Jim Steele, N. A. English, Jim McCullough, C. F. Gilbert, Colonel McClure, Fred Daily, Charley Thompson, M. W. Levy, Sol Kohn and Bro. Morris, the chieftain sat and blew the "clouds" heavenward and listened, and on the morrow gave his deductions.

Greiffenstein, in the pre-grasshopper day, was always in evidence when the tocsin sounded to summon Douglas avenue to battle for the supremacy of the "half section line, Douglas avenue over Central avenue and North Main street; then his step was quicker, and the smoke rolled high—

There was glory on his forehead
There was luster in his eye.
How many times since,
 "Those halcyon days,
When flowers bloom'd in all our ways"

has the image of this generous, faithful man come before me in "Board of Trade" councils. The absence of some men create a feeling that power has departed. To my mind, in after years, the absence of the reviled "Big Four" from "Board" meetings created this feeling. (This may be, however, the lingering Douglas avenue bias.) Douglas avenue men had brains, ideas, courage, but on one occasion "Dutch Bill's" absence on account of a sore throat, "milled," stampeded Douglas avenue men, in A. D. 1874, like Texas steers crossing the Big river below the bridge.

Greiffenstein was the Henry of Navarre; his meerscham plume, as the banner, was followed trustingly and blindly. Some men are a battalion; Greinffenstein was a brigade. His calm, silent presence was the presage of triumph.

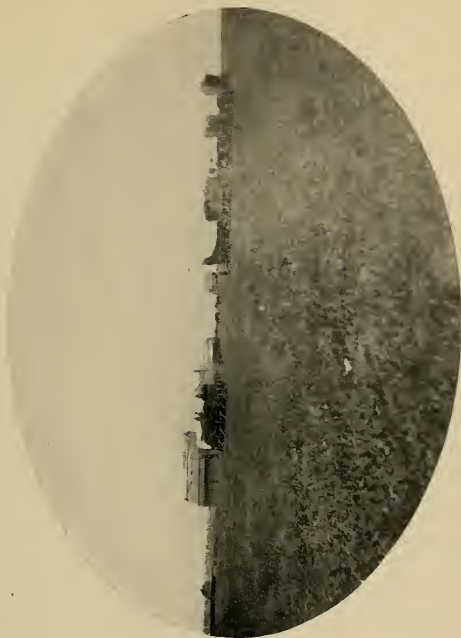
"One blast upon his bugle horn,
Were worth a thousand men."

Greiffenstein was a statesman. The placing of the toll-bridge stock in the hands of H. C. Day, N. McClees, et al., "North enders," deprived Main street of voices, which, for "dividends hoped for," would have made them as enemies to Douglas avenue. 'Twas their interest to draw interest. The building of Eagle block and the location of the postoffice, the Eagle office, county offices, court house, in it, was sagacity; the removal of the land office to Douglas avenue was the storming of the heights of El-Caney.

Charles Gilbert and James R. Mead, with large interests both north and south, were neutralized.

The north end was W. C. Woodman, Lank Moore, Al. Thomas and J. C. Fraker, leading a brigade of neutrals and close students in private economy with a Yankee bias.

The north end, with Central avenue as the main artery east and west, with capital in hand could have placed the Santa Fe depot at the corner of Fifth and Central, the big bridge across the river at Central avenue, and forever "shut" Douglas avenue out on the first heat. The south end had less cash but more faith and



MAIN STREET, WICHITA, IN 1870, LOOKING NORTH FROM
DOUGLAS AVENUE.

courage. Its friends were a unit, and this unity characterized the "Board of Trade" in after years, and a study of men shows that the "Board of Trade" was ever dominated by Douglas avenue men. Though it was concealed generally, the "Board of Trade" was selected on Douglas avenue before the annual meeting. This was not chance but design. Greiffenstein was a statesman; he was not a politician. He read the future and felt that only increasing labor could conquer the natural advantages of the north end. The location of the Oliver-Imboden mill on Douglas avenue was a fixed fact before Woodman and Lank Moore knew the mill was on foot.

Greiffenstein, Sol Kohn, Morris Kohn, M. W. Levy, N. A. English, A. W. Oliver, Jim Steele, Billy McClure, Colonel McClure, Jim McCullough and a host of "small fry" made the Douglas avenue crowd. In after years Douglas avenue was "a power," and through it all the same spirit dominated the selection of men and characterized the measures adopted. 'Twas Douglas avenue that located the Missouri Pacific depot (only it stopped at Second street instead of the avenue); it located the city building and the postoffice. Douglas avenue debated three days as to whether or not it would fight the court house bonds. It is a matter of deep regret that the court house bonds were not defeated and a location selected having some regard to the convenience of business men. Time was when court twice a year resembled a "general muster," but the court house of Sedgwick is a place of business, even as a bank or a store.

There is a legend that "Dutch Bill" and N. A. English drove "Old Ben" from Wichita to Emporia to catch Tom Peters, of the Santa Fe road, and secure the Santa Fe to Wichita. This drive was made in a single buggy and made with three stops. The trip was successful, and N. A. English received from Tom Peters a guaranty for a "life pass." In 18. . the railroad company repudiated the "pass." English sued the road and recovered. (See 38 Kansas, 110.) There were many who claimed that English had no more to do with it than many others. The depot was put on Mead's land, but English had a "life pass." English either had much to do with the location or he "hoodooed" Tom Peters. Mead's land was so situated as to give him such a double pull that the north end lost a good fighter on north location. In other words, he had a "lead-pipe cinch," and did not worry on location. When the depot was first located it was a "heap way" from

depot to the Douglas Avenue and Occidental hotels, and the "old Daily House" (corner of First and Water) and Southern Hotel (old Missouri Pacific ticket office on Main street), now Hub Clothing Store. The business men demanded a sidewalk to the depot. One was built from Lawrence avenue to Fifth avenue, fronting English's land. After some tax sale proceedings and an injunction suit the city presented English with a receipt in full. It seemed that the council neglected to do everything in regard to the "business" except to build the sidewalk. As there were no city taxes levied in those days, the income from various divers and sundry "places" (now abolished) paying all expenses, the loss was not mourned over.

(**Note**—In this connection it may be remembered that in those halcyon days, ere the tempestuous storm burst in fury o'er our defenseless head, it was our proud boast to the incoming "sucker" that "there were no city taxes.")

To return to our mutton: In 1877 to 1879 "things" moved slow, * * * slow. Acres of lots had been sold for taxes; no one wanted any. The foreclosure of mortgages on the Occidental Hotel, the prior failure of the First National Bank, the tendency to move toward and on Douglas avenue, the freeing of the toll bridge, and other lesser things paralyzed North Main street, and for a season Main street was "Goldsmith's deserted village." The fortunes of Main street have been as the waves of the sea—at highest and lowest tide. The depression on Douglas avenue has been great, but if it had equaled Main street's depression, Main street would have been annihilated.

In 1879 the Frisco railway pointed Wichitaward, but had Winfield and Wellington in view. A business men's league was called and every human in the county was for the bonds. The vote supposedly was for a railroad from St. Louis to Wichita and one fork to Viola township and one to Mount Hope. The railroad got as far as Wichita and stopped. It then appeared that the railroad intended to "go on." The vote was inseparable; Wichita stood "pat" on three lines or no bonds; and the result was "no bonds." Two men of all others claimed the crown for the Frisco road—C. Wood Davis and Colonel Jocelyn—but Col. M. M. Murdock, Jim Steele, A. W. Oliver, M. W. Levy, Col. Milton Stewart, N. A. English et al. were found about that time and did some work. There is a legend that after the road was built and the usual excursion to the business men who did nothing toward

securing the railroad was had the Chamber of Commerce at St. Louis gave a banquet, and one-half of the said business men drank out of the "finger-bowls," under the belief that it was "pineapple sop," and one man swore that it was the flattest champagne he ever tasted.

"Mind you, now, I wasn't there—
I only solemnly state
What Ed Jewett did relate,
But I forget when or where.

The opening of the Frisco was manna to the children in the desert. It was the "restoration." In the language of Colonel Murdock, in Palingenesis, who said:

"Yet anon, in brighter strains of destiny,
* * * * *

The Star of Empire beckons on a happy throng,
Kansas' Palingenesis."

'Twas in this hour of hope that the "Old Board of Trade" was placed on a foundation. The raven of doubt was banished; the croaker was an unclean thing; on double "Eagle" wings we soared to heights sublime. We adopted the German proverb, "There is no fish so small but it expects to become a whale." The man with money, time, brain, voice was expected to devote a portion to the advancement and upbuilding of Wichita. He who hung back and held his purse was voted as a Wichita curse. The stingy man was a marked man, and was pointed out as a negative lesson to every newcomer.

Colonel Milton Stewart was president of the "Board of Trade" at the first meeting the writer attended. At this meeting Judge Thomas B. Wall and the writer paid \$10 and became members of the board.

The glucose factory was tackled. It had no capital, and was frowned upon. Subsequently, in 1881, the "creamery craze" struck Kansas. It had a representative here, and he worked the town to the "ragged fringe of a frazzle," and the "boys" first learned the meaning of a double-liability on corporate stock. The creamery was built, mortgaged, foreclosed to Dr. Hoffman's father. It afterward was burned.

Subsequently, Jim Jones, who worked on a farm at \$15 per month, got a new suit of clothes and went off on a visit and returned as a graduate in the art of building waterworks. He got a franchise and sold out to Colonel Lewis and built the house where the widow of Mr. Roach now lives, sold out for \$25,000 and went to Memphis, Tenn., and "worked" that town. As a bold schemer, Jones was quartered oak, hand-rubbed, done in oil and waxed. He filled his contract with the city, but he made a contract that was a jewel, and this was learned as the days and months went speeding by, when wooden mains were rotting and bursting. "Thus we learn that they who ha' na' sense, but money to burn," will find some one to help burn it.

Wichita was now at the incoming of the tide, and on the crest o' swelling wave we gleefully did ride.

About this time Kansas "took a header" and voted for the "prohibition amendment." Men differ as to the effect on Wichita's fortunes by reason of this change, but, in my judgment, a change in "theory" without a change in "practice" deprives us of the premise from which to argue. John Peter St. John (on whose bosom most prohibitionists expected to finally rest, prior to Grover's election in 1884) said: "You people (Wichita's) have carried on the most successful rebellion against the constitution in the history of our government." Conceding that St. John was correct, we cannot say what the real effect has been on the financial condition of Wichita by the liquor law.

This brings me, according to my chronology, to the shore of the "flood" and in sight of the "white caps" so soon to roll over Wichita and engulf it; to the wild billows whose spray dampened and refreshed everything within an hundred miles, and attracted the greedy from the Atlantic coast, challenged the admiration of all beholders and at the same time made our rivals "as full of envy at Wichita's greatness as Cerberus was at Proserpina's beauty." So many things crowd for space that this sketch is too long for one paper, and will be finished at a future time.

I think it is a truth that until 1883 the local organizations were mere cliques, building with a selfish pecuniary direct and immediate end, and that the upbuilding of Wichita as a commercial city, a railroad center, a large distributing point, did not enter into the mind of but one man, viz.: Col. M. M. Murdock. Colonel Murdock stood between the two furious factions, and was appointed postmaster as the only man that both ends would

trust. There was less politics and more real business in his appointment than ever since displayed. He placed the postoffice where Tanner's store is, on Main street, and the factions shook hands and went home to whet butcher knives for the next engagement.

In the second paper on this subject will be given the unity of Wichita under the banner of "Harmony, Unity, Strength, Success."

December 3, 1898.

CHRONICLE II.

"Local history is a chain, the links o' which are the united memories of many minds."

In the fall of 1882, when Wichita was on the commercial "teeter-board"—no one knowing what our destiny was to be—there was "talk" of the "Fifth Parallel Railroad," i. e., the road supposed to be hunting location and subsidies (principally subsidies) running from Fort Scott toward Wichita. It was chartered from Fort Scott as the St. Louis, Fort Scott & Wichita Railroad (but names do not affect locations), and our people naturally were anxious. Frank Tiernan, then its president, came to Wichita and convinced our people that if we obtained this road it would cost money, though natural advantages would count; bonus, subsidies, largesses would also weigh. Frank went to Newton, drove from Newton to El Dorado, practically over the present route of the Ellsworth, Newton & Southeastern Railway (the railway from El Dorado to Newton). We learned that there were at least three factors in getting this road, viz.: Location, bonds and Tiernan, and all seemed to be equally urgent. There were no social advantages at Newton. Our saloons were open and Frank "played poker." This gave us an advantage which was not counted by our people, but Frank looked on the foaming beer in the schooner at Tom Jewell's place, under Governor Stanley's law office, and made promises in writing that led him to assert that Wichita was to have the road, and the Newton committee went home discouraged. The bonds were voted, and the road to be completed by July 1, 1883. Mr. Jay Gould was believed to be behind this road, but he denied it until the railway was built to El Dorado. (A law suit with Moran developed the scheme.) Soon as it was known that it was the Missouri Pacific,

"things" at Wichita brightened up, and lots had a value, lands stiffened, but all the sales were local (even as the story of rats penned up, we simply were slowly consuming ourselves).

One day old man Morse, of Connecticut, and a man named Ives came to Wichita. They looked around for a while, and priced a great many pieces of Douglas avenue and Main street lots. They purchased the following properties:

Southeast corner Main and Second streets.

Southeast corner Main and First streets.

The old building and lots where Dunbar's undertaking establishment is, and the property on East Douglas avenue where Paige's store is. Finlay Ross sold them the First street corner and immediately purchased the lots where Rorabaugh's store now is.

Finlay bought out Emil Werner. Whether he got the old organ that ran from month to month and year to year, without a break, when Emil was a "wet goods merchant," I don't know, but that organ, with its solemn, melancholy, diabolical, weird, spirit-exasperating and soul-destroying strains, was hushed forever, and everybody chanted *Te Deum*, *Non Nobis Domine*, and sang the hallelujah, etc. The truth is that said organ, that inanimate, howling parody on musical inventions, caused more bloodshed than figures can tabulate. Two men on a hot day could not argue on Main street without fighting. The doleful sounds emitted from the bowels of that * * * organ would cause an excited man to whip his mother, a banker to reduce his interest to 3 per cent a month, and an officeholder to resign his office.

Note.—My honest belief is that the organ aforesaid would produce pandemonium in Paradise in one hour from its first lugubrious howl. In fact, it was a wooden hypochondriac proclaiming its desolation and misery to all mankind.

The above lot sales to a total stranger acted on the corporeal system of the dwellers in the Happy Valley like electricity to the frog's leg. The dead were alive; the alive were quickened. The "Board of Trade" (then, as afterward) claimed all the credit. Men invoiced themselves and marked their "stuff" up daily, like merchants during the "Rebellion." Each week justified the last invoice, and we commenced to get the "magnus caput."

Note.—Joe Morse went home, felt dissatisfied with his purchases, came back at once to Wichita, and stopped at the Occidental. Early the next morning he strolled down Main street.

No one was on the street; the silent hamlet slept. In front of Dunbar's he stopped. Old man Grantham came along and Joe accosted him.

Morse—What town is this?

Grantham—Wichita.

Morse—What population?

Grantham—According to census, 5,000; according to facts, 2,500.

Morse—Any property selling?

Grantham—No.

Morse—Ain't you mistaken?

Grantham—No, I ain't.

Morse—I am told that several large sales of business property have been made.

Grantham—Well, there were two * * * old idiots from Connecticut came out here, and the boys unloaded on 'em, but that is the extent of the sales.

Tableau!

Morse went to the hotel, attempted to eat breakfast, went at once to Jim Steele's house and was, in fact, "stampeded." Steele laughed at him and found him an "optioner" who wanted the Paige lot at an advanced price, but advised Morse to reject it. Before supper (dinner) Steele had convinced Morse that he was a shrewd buyer. Morse walked the street. Men who did not know him told him a hundred times of his own purchases. Before he left, Morse made other purchases.

Morse was the original Wichita boomer. He kindled a fire that he could not stop, and at last, after making a fortune, was consumed by the original fire which he had kindled.

"Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth!"—James III, 5.

From the Morse-Ives purchases dated the milestone called the "boom." A hundred land-owners withdrew their land from sale; two hundred placed theirs on sale. Jim Steele, in February, 1883, had his office on the second floor of the building east of the "Eagle" office, and one day booked over fifty tracts of land. "Jim" sold his home here for \$40,000, to Al Thomas and Amos Houck. "Jim" had no part in the "boom." He went to Tacoma, invested his money in timber lands, and "backed" the Grant boys, of Wichita (who lived where Will McNaughten now lives, on Topeka avenue), who went to Tacoma and first used and

tried to patent the method of raising sunken ships that Hobson (the naval kisser) wanted to use on the Spanish ships.

Note.—Jim Steele died, almost a pauper, in Tacoma. He was a man who possessed natural magnetism, and was one of the 306 immortals who voted for Grant at Chicago, when Grant succumbed to the cry of "Cæsarism," "Imperialism" and "Dynasty." At a future time I may give space to Steele as he deserves.

J. M. Steele had as much to do with getting the Missouri Pacific Railway as any other one man. He was one of the men who possessed power, as Garfield expresses it, in a twofold way, viz.: Strength and force; strength, as typified by the oak, and force, as in the thunderbolt. Steele was a leader and in the "long ago" was made "of blood and iron." Wichita owes him much. The young never knew him. The generation gliding swiftly to "nothingness and decay" still recall his majestic presence; the old heads remember his power; the poor, his generosity.

"Many long summers th' grass shall grow green,
Blossom and fade, our faces 'atween,
Ere we shall behold a figure so bold,
Or in councils hear the voice of his peer."

The Missouri Pacific was assured. The depot was not selected. The railway company, not being particular, asked for a right of way on one of the following streets: Waco, Wichita, Mead, Mosley, Washington and Kellogg. The town rose in arms; the city council was threatened. Judge Balderston was city attorney. After wrangling from Tuesday until Friday, the ordinance was passed. The "roar" grew louder. Captain Smythe, a member of the council, got out a petition and had the council convened on Saturday at 3 o'clock. Judge Sluss represented the "many-headed multitude," and was permitted to speak in favor of the resolution to repeal the ordinance. Sluss was hired to make that speech as a lawyer, and he earned every dollar he charged for it. He had an audience that was with him. The room, the hallway and the stairway were crowded and the crowd cheered him to the echo. The council, like willows, waved to and fro. Mike Zimmerly, the president of the council, was the railway company's "Gibraltar." He was "a rock in a weary land," in the shadow

of which the railroad company's attorney and its friends sat trembling. On him all our hopes reposed. The railroad company's attorney represented that the railway officials were all in Fort Scott and that any action in their absence was unfair and unjust. Mike Zimmerly moved that the meeting adjourn until Tuesday afternoon to give the company officials an opportunity to be present. The motion carried.

In one-half hour a telegram was sent to Frank Tiernan at Fort Scott, which, divested of all surplusage and the marrow extracted, was, to use the classic language of Isaiah, about as follows: "Hell from beneath is moved for thee, to meet thee at thy coming."

Ere vespers, long before Erebus spread his sable mantle o'er the carpet of sun-brown buffalo grass, a telegram was received that Tiernan, president; Chanault, treasurer, and Woods, engineer, would arrive here Sunday, if possible on the construction train. The railroad was new, track out of line, culverts were temporary, made of ties, bridges half constructed, and all was being crowded to earn bonds—i. e., get the subsidies and build the road permanently afterward. On Sunday word came that they (Tiernan et al.) were coming, and to have teams at the west end of the track at once.

The warm friends of the road were excited, but were reassured when the "wire" came: "Fort Scott. — All aboard. — Tiernan."

Coming to head off "the repeal,"
Carried by an engine fleet;
Whizzing on the bands of steel
Through the fields of yellow wheat;
Rumbling on the trembling bridges,
And between the "walls of corn,"
Along the Flint hills' ridges—
To save a hope forlorn.

Banking on the ordinance, \$20,000 had been expended on West Douglas and Wichita streets.

On Sunday twenty teams from the end of the railroad reached Chisholm creek, with ties and iron to make a "showin'." On Monday morning an acceptance of the ordinance was served on the city officials, in "deshabille" and "décolleté." And the engi-

neer corps entered on Wichita street at Park street. The depot was commenced, the ties and iron strung along the street; the railroad officials and attorneys went to bed, saved by a "vested right." Waco street not being selected, Captain Smythe was appeased, and the council did not act on the motion to repeal the ordinance.

Germane to this railroad history there were many amusing things, three of which are worth space:

After the ordinance was accepted, and the officials were going to the Occidental Hotel, Tiernan said: "Boys, this is equal to the excitement of a poker game in room 12."

Speaking of Frank's penchant for poker: In June, 1883, an injunction was issued to prevent crossing the land at Twenty-fifth street and Hydraulic avenue. It was agreed to hold the same twenty-four hours, until \$800 could be sent here for settlement. The treasurer of the road wired that Tiernan had a draft for the amount. Tiernan was in room 12, aforesaid, in the Occidental, but he was like the man from Jericho. M. W. Levy sent for the road's attorney and showed him the draft, indorsed by Tiernan to Dick Walker. No further explanation was given or requested. The general impression was circulated that Tiernan was unable to settle for \$800, and another draft for same amount was sent.

On the day (or night) that the ordinance was passed, Mike Zimmerly was the last name called on the roll. Mike had been promised a guaranty that the road would not go down Kellogg street, and he did not intend to vote until he got it. When his name was called he arose and left the room, followed by Tiernan. When he came back and voted "Aye," Captain Smythe arose and demanded to know the nature of the conversation between Zimmerly and Tiernan. Mike arose and said the gentleman from the Second ward could go to Pandemonium, Abaddon, Domdaniel, Purgatory, Gehenna, Hades, Tartarus, Styx, Plutonian shades, Tophet, and other words germane to the above, closely allied therewith, from the same Greek and Latin root. And thus were dull hours of council meeting interspersed with pleasantries to lighten the burden of weighty matters fraught with deep solicitude to the city.

The completion of the Missouri Pacific was to Wichita as—
"Wine that maketh glad the heart of man."—Psalms iv, 15.

It was the first railroad to give promise of competition. The

Frisco was really in the hands of the Santa Fe, so we only had one road.

To prevent Tiernan going to Kingman, the Santa Fe and Frisco built a joint line to Kingman, and rejoiced all Wichita because Tiernan was "headed for Anthony, and both roads were building at once, and then to Hutchinson.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE STREET RAILWAY—A. D. 1883.

By

KOS HARRIS.

Among the last acts of Jim Steele was to interest himself in the street railway. Col. John W. Hartzell, of Topeka, came here and met with no encouragement. At last Steele took the same in hand; a charter was obtained and corporation organized, as follows: President, Hartzell; vice-president, Steele; treasurer, L. D. Skinner; secretary, Frank Hartzell; attorney, Kos Harris. The road issued bonds, \$15,000, sold them at par to S. W. Wheelock, of Moline, Ill., and built from Fifth avenue to Main street on Douglas, and then north on Main street; thence from Oak street to the Santa Fe depot.

During this year (1883) people commenced to come to Wichita—at least 2,500 “newcomers.” The street railway paid from the start. The “corn train” to Cincinnati, O., was shipped on the first Sunday after street cars were started, and the receipts for that day were \$250.

Hartzell was a pioneer and, like Alexander the Great, wanted to conquer more worlds, and then determined to go to Carthage, and then determined to go to San Francisco. He sold his lines at Wichita to Col. E. R. Powell for \$25,000. Powell sold one-half to Col. B. H. Campbell for \$25,000, and subsequently sold the other half to J. O. Davidson, Colonel Campbell, George L. Rouse, R. E. Lawrence and O. Martinson et al. for \$100,000.

Note.—On July 4, 1883, Colonel Campbell made a bet that the street cars would be in the hands of a receiver in six months. Judge Edwin Hill was stakeholder. Inside of one year Campbell paid \$25,000 for half interest, thus proving that—

For the almighty dollar, common clay man
Will “tack his course” and change his plan;
“Eat his words,” lose his bet, for any scheme,
“When a change comes o’er the spirit of his dream.”

In other words: "A wise man adapts himself to circumstances, even as water shapes itself to the jug that contains it."

Verily, verily, on rolling waves the ship "Wichita" was scudding, chased by a tempest soon—too soon—to overtake it and sweep from the deck every man not lashed to the timbers. The ravens were many, but the albatross in our natures moved us to seek the "trade-winds," court the commercial billows, to defy the tempest, and become as deaf as adders. We drowned the fierce cries of the croaking raven, and onward we went, proclaiming to the dwellers of the Happy Valley:

There's money in the town, boys,
If you will only by it stand;
There's millions in th' deal, boys,
If you will lend a helping hand.
Let us join hearts and hands together,
And put our rivals down;
'Twill be glory after while
To know we built a town.

And yet, up to this date (1884) in our history, the "Board of Trade" was but little known and was less appreciated. There were not to exceed twelve men (same number as a petit jury, same as the apostles) who were crying in the wilderness. The majority of our people were "sawing wood" at their own woodpile, and paying no heed to the swelling storm soon to burst o'er us. To raise \$100 for a railroad committee was simply worse than paying campaign expenses after election, or raising a church mortgage. Some men said they would not give anything, because they were never on committee. The truth is, few men were fitted in brain to head a committee. The real railroad committee—no matter who was appointed—were Murdock, Levy, Niederlander and Oliver. One reason for this was, they were personally acquainted with Gould, Hayes, Hoxie, Clarke and other Missouri Pacific officials.

Great and efficient work was done by J. O. Davidson, H. W. Lewis et al., but this will come hereafter.

This brings me to the year 1885, one year prior to the organization of the "Board of Trade" on a new basis and the campaigns under the motto of Harmony, Unity, Strength, Success.

CHAPTER XX.

CHRONICLES.

By

KOS HARRIS.

CHRONICLE III.

“To write local history; to be exact; to wound no one; to give all actors their due, is to be a god.”

In the spring of 1885,
The budding city was all alive;
There was business, thrift and money;
Kansas was th' land o' milk and honey.

In the year of '85, farm land sold then “sightunseen” on general reputation. The trouble was to keep the “stuff.” Raw lands, ten to fifteen miles from Wichita, sold at from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per quarter.

Late in the spring of 1885, Jay Gould, General Solicitor Brown, General Manager Hoxie, George Gould et al., officers of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company, arrived in Wichita one morning and invited Colonel Murdock, Levy, Niederlander and Oliver and the local attorney to go with them to Anthony. On the ride back, the Wichita & Colorado Railroad was born, the route being then from Wichita to Mt. Hope, thence to Stafford, St. John and Larned. Procrastination, however, let the Santa Fe build from Hutchinson to St. John before we got started. The relationship of a Hutchinson lady to the wife of an official of the Missouri Pacific forced the line to Hutchinson. Verily, verily, woman, weak woman, round among “pots and kettles,” using man, strong man, for “skittles”; woman, frail woman, with a duster in hand, scattering microbes and other death-dealing animalcular infusoria from times beginning, hath had a large part in the world's chronicles.

“Talk of woman’s sphere as if it had a limit:
There’s not a place in earth or heaven;
There’s not a task to mankind given,
That hath a feather’s weight o’ worth,
Without a woman in it.”

Helen of Troy, Cleopatra, Dido, Garah of Marlborough, Eugenie, the Duchess of Portsmouth, Agnes Tarei, Pompadour, Maintenon, Mrs. Lincoln, Madame Recamier, Madame de Stael, Countess of Pembroke and other ladies of character, reputation and wit, and thousands of unknown yet strong-brained women, have made and unfrocked men, created generals, colonels, nobles and judges, as well as wars; changed forms of government; and man, strong, brainy man, has charged the same to “destiny,” instead of petticoats; cursed his divining star; his horoscope—

Little think—never dreaming,
That some lovely woman’s ways,
In affectionate scheming,
Has changed a year’s work in a day.

The local directory of the Wichita & Colorado Railway went to bed hearing the “braky” call out: “All aboard to Mt. Hope, Stafford, St. John and Larned!” and awoke with a telegram from New York: “The road will go to Hutchinson. Full instructions to Harding by mail.”

Afterward we learned—

That the eloquence of man,
All statistics, map, and plan,
Were brushed aside by woman’s wit,
And that was the end of it.

Hutchinson claimed the “first blood,” and we then all claimed that we always intended to go to Hutchinson. Before we “laid down,” however, we appealed to Mr. Gould. He dismissed the appeal and affirmed the judgment of the lawyer official. In a little time we found that the D. M. & A. Railroad, Jay Gould and S. H. Mallory, and the line from Geneseo to Pueblo had formed a “trust,” and that the Wichita & Colorado Railway would end at Hutchinson; that all dreams, schemes, plans, hopes

and ambitions of the "Wichita crowd" as "railway projectors" and "town builders," "bond voters," "subsidy-getters," were at an end, and forever; and instead of a main line to Pueblo, Colo., from Wichita, we were tied to the main line as a branch at Geneseo. Instead of being the "trunk" we were only one of many branches.

Fate hath so far made Wichita a branch-line town in name, but we are the only "branch-line town" that "time tables" are made to accommodate. The only one where twelve commercial travelers for a wholesale house might make Marion, Newton, Burton, Lyons, Kingman, Harper, Medicine Lodge, Anthony, Caldwell, Arkansas City, Neodesha and El Dorado, and get home the same day. Wichita as a town paid for all it has; no legislative larceny hath added a dollar to the millions of taxable assets of Wichita. The sums paid to the state treasurer give us a right to demand some public enterprise, enable us to criticize appropriations made to towns whose existence depends on biennial legislative plunder.

Note.—The writer hereof, speaking only for himself, hopes we will continue this policy until all the lunatic asylums, state prisons and normal schools are located. Though home industry is a good thing, it is better to ship lunatics and convicts out and thrifty people in. So far as a normal school is concerned, it will add nothing, be nothing; 'twill only take luster from and dwarf our present splendid educational institutions. Another great reason is that we are now at liberty to examine into and criticize all appropriations not just or demanded. The location of a public institution forces us to let all "steals" go through to save our own particular larceny of public money. Wichita is the resultant of local pride, brain, labor and push. Situate on buffalo grass; surrounded by sunflowers; hundreds of miles from commerce; the political and commercial Ishmaelite of Kansas; without natural advantages save land (the supreme mother of all fortune) and—

With no powerful "friend at court,"
Of every bantling town the sport;
The ribald jest and envious sneer
Were daily ours from year to year.

The years came and went, yet slowly, surely, we were upward climbing. High was the mark at which our archers shot. We aimed at the capital, and struck the column above the base. Our

rivals became our helpers and by hatred "pricked the sides of our intent," goaded us to shoot at the unattainable and lose a thousand arrows. We learned to shoot high. And from the peak of our efforts we beheld our rivals groveling in the dust beneath us, scrambling for the crumbs of the Wichita banquet.

The shafts of envy, spite, rancor and malice were hurled at Wichita from every point of the compass. Our success only created a larger band of "howlers" and our misfortunes were heralded abroad as if our misery, desolation and woe were matters to be proud of. In fact, the "Kansas fight" on the only town having spirit or independence reminds one of the exultation of a family over the ruin of a sister, because it gave a chance to get into print. Before we succeeded, columns were printed by

"Lean-faced envy from its loathsome cave"

and scattered as autumn leaves. Poison was shed on the evening air like the deadly upas, to inoculate all within its zone.

"With rival hating envy" our good offices were spurned; our friendship was a badge of disloyalty to the coyote hamlets, which, at last, stood afar off, contemplating the dying lion, waiting for the hour for to "hold a wake" and gnaw the carcass. In 1886 we felt we had succeeded, despite the many handicaps put on our steed by the jealous rivals in the race. In fact, we may truthfully say:

On prairies level, bare and brown,
Which seem'd to reach from sky to sky,
United brain built up a town
Which envy said would surely die;
Dwellers therein all move away;
Soon it would crumble and decay,
As many another had done,
And, save ruin'd brick and stone,
Naught remain to recall, some day,
The dreamers on the Arkansas
Who founded what was "Wichita."

But these calumnies, base as hell, blacker than the hue of dungeons, as rancorous as the tongue of a "turncoat," only made our fires burn brighter and spur the town to carry a heavier load, and break every colt to work in "lead, swing or wheel," and push on the hilltop. Yes, in 1886, we had triumphed, and yet

we felt that until we achieved the mountain's top, the regal peaks, and stood upon the lofty crest, o'ertoppling the naked beetling rocks that frowned on the valley below, far above the timber-line, beyond the ragged pine and the flower that buds amidst the snow, beyond the clouds, above the glare, where, wrapped in the everlasting shroud of frosted ice, the frozen sentinels guard the rocky pass in solitude and grandeur, we should neither pause nor rest. Our ambition was not baseborn, but high, sublime and lofty. Old age would be in comfort; the generations unborn would lisp our names, and build monuments when we were dust of ashes.

"Our high-blown pride at length broke," and there "were none so poor to do us reverence." We fell, and oh, what a fall! "Aye, verily, as Lucifer from the battlements of heaven"; and what royal company—Kansas City, Omaha, Los Angeles, Denver, Galveston, Tacoma, Sioux City—and the small fry. Railroads went into receivers' hands. The shock that cleared our decks, tore away the mast, flooded the hold and tore from our sides the lifeboats and left us "to the mercy of a rude stream," was felt from Marblehead to the Golden Gate; from the Lakes, north, to the Gulf, south.

Our bold temerity dwarfed the past and made us a monument—a milestone in the highway of the historian—and we will not be forgotten.

Note.—Ere we say to this farewell, I desire to give a few facts as to the Wichita & Colorado Railway. Colwich was made as the name from the first syllable of Colorado and Wichita; An-Dale (this is the proper spelling, as fixed in the charter of the An-Dale Town company) was formed from the name of George Anderson and Will Dale (Judge Dale's brother), the first syllable of Anderson and the name of "Dale."

REORGANIZED BOARD OF TRADE.

In the winter of 1886 the new blood was striving for place, for recognition. The old Board of Trade was dictatorial. It was the pioneer, and, like "old politicians," hated to surrender to the young men. The new men were impatient and aggressive, and had some cause for it. They wanted a place on the Board of Trade. No one would give way. The Board of Trade held its meetings and heeded not the brewing storm. Some of the members felt that the new men were not treated fairly, but the "man-

agement" just "sawed wood," heard not the "rabble." The "rabble" aforesaid was composed of men that had themselves held power ere they to Kansas came—men that had brains, influence, "and, by jingo, had the money, too," belonged to the new crowd, and in their veins "blood ran warmer than wine."

They, too, had read Rob Roy, and learned—

"The good old rule, the simple plan,
That he shall take who has the power,
And he shall keep, who can."

Acting on this humanitarian impulse, which has been the rule amongst the civilized and uncivilized heathen since the days of one Julius, surnamed Cæsar, the new blood circulated a call around town for a business men's meeting at Garfield Hall on that evening. The old Board of Trade held off, but many of the silent members attended.

(Up to this date the Board of Trade had no funds, save the dues, which were small; no funds were in the treasury. Collections around town were made to raise money for any committee work.)

On the night above set out, at least five hundred men met at Garfield Hall, as agreed in the call, and a more enthusiastic band never before or since had business in hand. George W. Clement (afterward mayor) was made chairman and Alexander Steele was secretary.

Among the then prominent men present were: George M. Dickson, Colonel Bean, W. K. Carlisle, Attorney Pacy, Ed Foster, Mr. Hess, George Blackwelder, George L. Rouse, Mose Hinman, R. A. Haste, Sam Howe, George Masten, W. R. Dulaney, Elmer DeVore, George C. Strong, Talmage (of Todd & Talmage), George G. Mathews, Arthur Parks, W. F. Green, C. E. Ferguson, W. P. McNair, C. H. Peckham, Gardner Work, W. M. Bond, Colonel Topler, George W. Walker, J. S. P. Gordon, Frank Dale, Jim Mercer, J. J. Parks, Judge Museller, Bruce Keenan, Wesley Morris, Aaron Katz, Lee Hays, Sam Goldstein, Robert and M. Jacks, Murray Myers, Hank Heiserman, and hundreds more I cannot at this date recall.

On that night George Clement "won his spurs," demonstrated his power to talk, and his right to be ruler.

Alexander Steele that night proved he could think and act.

"Things" moved along, with suggestions, until Pacy arose and said:

"Time was money; money was power; power was what we needed; that a corporation with such purposes as we were attempting needed cash; that an empty treasury could do nothing—was as nothing. He therefore moved that 100 men donate \$10 apiece, to be called membership fee; that each new member donate \$100 apiece, and that this money be used to defray the expenses to be incurred in securing industries for Wichita."

Pacy sat down, and fifty men seconded the motion. The roll was called, and Clements announced over \$5,000 donated in twenty minutes. The crowd went wild, to draw it mild. Everybody smiled. A committee was appointed to draw a charter for The Wichita Chamber of Commerce; a committee for rules and by-laws; a committee for soliciting members. All committees to report next night at same place.

Meeting adjourned.

The old Board of Trade had its ears to the ground. It had heard the rumbling sound. A detail was sent out to recall the wandering sheep from its fold and learn what was on foot. The aforesaid sheep were called together by the Chamber of Commerce bell. Dire destruction's desolating discrimination had cut the old "board" in twain. The silent members were free and were glad that they were free. They exclaimed, when accosted by the detail sent after them by the old board:

"Let the galled jade wince; our withers are unwrung."

The imperious temper of the "old board" was checked. There was naught to do but "stoop to conquer." Delay was dangerous. The new charter must be left unwritten. Concession, compromise, capitulation on honorable terms were all that was left. The old board saw that dissension was death; that in harmony only was success to Wichita. The board met in the room where C. V. Ferguson's law office was later, and sent a committee to the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce sent a committee, composed of Clement, Steele, Dickson, and two men who were members of the old board, and who had linked themselves to the new. After deliberation, it was agreed that the board be increased to twenty-three; that the old board have thirteen; new men, twelve; that A. W. Oliver be president; George L. Rouse, vice-president; George W. Clement, secretary; M. W. Levy, treasurer; that the subscription made be turned to the old board;

that a meeting be held in the court room at First street; that the new directory be elected, new officers chosen, the subscriptions be paid. With some modifications, the program was carried out, and as the meeting adjourned, some one (probably from Kentucky) sang out:

“United we stand, divided we fall.”

Some one answered:

“In harmony triumph, in unity fall,
Be the banner sheltering all.”

This was the “starter” of the motto:

Harmony,
Unity,
Strength,
Success.

The new Board of Trade soon had in its treasury \$12,000. The old board had surrendered, but by a strategic act it regained all it lost. The board was too large to handle anything. The personnel of the directory, for brain, labor, power, “result-getters,” was never surpassed by any town, but the board was too big to act. Therefore an executive committee! President, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, and Colonel Murdock. The old board lost the “deal” and won by taking “the last trick.”

The personal aggregate wealth of this board ran into millions—millions based on tangible wealth. And yet the “slump,” the subsequent decline, has left them as ruined gamblers of roulette, faro and the “Derby.” Of that glorious, gallant, generous band, few remain; many are dead. Some died almost as paupers. The monument that marks their resting place cost more money than the estate they left was worth at final settlement. Some are almost outcasts; some are working by the day to earn bread for their respective families. Many of these men subscribed and paid donated subscriptions that today would make their family above want, if not in comfortable circumstances.

And yet, even at this short day, their names, deeds, lives, are almost forgotten. Verily, verily, you stick your finger in a glass of water, beer, brandy or other liquid, and when you pull it out no trace of said finger remains; so with man.

“The evil men do lives after them;
Men’s evil manners live in brass,
Their virtues we write in water.”

Monuments in brick and stone, in railroads, colleges and packing houses attest their liberality and labor; yet all, all is wiped out by the remembrance of what they failed to do.

“All honor to him who wins the prize!
This world has cried, for a thousand years;
To him who tries, who fails and dies,
There’s naught but pitiful tears.”

In our little world, naught is left but curses for many who have fallen, and every noble act is effaced, obliterated by the remembrance of a debt unpaid, an obligation uncanceled; and yet he who thinks, realizes that but for this army of workers, who in unselfishness worked for all, there would be but little here, and that little would have but a nominal value.

Those who are here, who know the sacrifice, who beheld them in health, ambition and pride, cannot but feel a pang that they were only to “behold the promised land, and were never to enter therein.” To name these men now will wound the living—wound many of them, yet living, afar off.

Some day, when the historians write of Wichita, they will, “in letters of gold, on leaves of silver,” inscribe the names of our “heroes,” and the generation yet to follow us will do them the honor which this generation withholds. The pioneer since the world began has never reaped the harvest; he that plants a tree seldom eats the fruit thereof. The pioneers of Wichita are no exception to the rule. Of the pioneer of the West, of southwest Kansas, it may be said:

There’s now a city, a thousand homes,
On land he broke for his first sod-corn;
He, a stranger, now aimlessly roams
Where his wife died and his babes were born.

The fusion of the new blood and the old blood was a guarantee of success.

George Clement afterward became president of the board;

then mayor of Wichita. His sun went down in a cloud, never to rise again. He was a man, proud, ambitious, noble, generous, undaunted, and his friends yet believe that had he lived and kept his health, he would have cut his name in the Kansas tree deep enough to have it remain until our archives became as "dust of ashes."

Clement was, in many respects, an orator. He was clear-cut, forcible and argumentative. He stumped Kansas for Charles Robinson for governor, and made friends wherever he went. His speech at Galveston was the one speech made by a Kansas man. The Texans who attended that meeting all recall Clement of Wichita.

The writer hereof and Clement were never warm friends. I do not, in his praise, disparage others; recalling the Roman saying, "Let nothing save good be said of the dead."

I do but call to mind his worth, his noble attributes. In the hundreds that belonged to the Board of Trade, Clement "dared to lead where any dared to follow." His friends were proud of him and his enemies respected him. He was a good hater, and a warm friend. "And the elements so mixed in him, that nature might stand up and say to all the world, 'This was a man.'"

The amalgamated forces of Wichita were, in their day and generation, invincible. The new Board of Trade

"Had an eye as keen,
A brain as clear,
An arm as strong,
A purse as long,"

as any rival they had to grapple with.

Association with these men was a liberal education. It was a school where matured men learned the power, worth and genius of each other; where opinions were weighed by enemies and deliberately adopted as the course of wisdom and business sagacity. The majority ruled and the minority submitted.

This paper has reached its length. In number four (when written), the Burton Car Works, Dold Packing House, Whittaker Packing House, Rock Island Railroad, and minor things, will be treated; and then—"and then the Deluge."

CHRONICLE V.

"Examples, not precepts, govern the world."

On July 4, 1887, as the writer was going to town, he saw an excited crowd in front of Levy's bank; I think there were at least fifty men. A. W. Oliver was talking, and in a moment it was learned that J. O. Davidson had sent a telegram to the effect that he had secured the location of the Burton Stock Car Works, on terms that he was sure Wichita would accept. The John Bright University, located somewhere in the vast terra incognita lying southwest of Wichita some miles, was for the time being forgotten; the Baptist College, down south (since dedicated to humbler uses by Henry Schnitzler by hauling part of same away and building with the remainder), was overlooked; the Reformed Church College and Fairmount were laid away in the shade; Garfield College was no longer a theme; the talk concerning the location for the government building was suspended; city hall and county court house locations no longer engrossed attention; the Gould car shop in the "Y" across the river no longer interested any one. These things were sure and certain, and the Burton Stock Car Company was a "bread winner." It was to be the initiative of the dreamed-of "tin bucket brigade" that would draw others similar to it. Aye, verily, as a magnet attracts iron filings; as Sunday schools do boys who love girls; as Christmas doings at a church or picnics in May draw the one-gallused "kids" from swimming holes and fishing places for a day.

The excitement July 4, 1898, was loud, noisy, and went off in explosion; the feeling July 4, 1887, was deep, exultant and triumphant. Of course no one knew what the things were to cost, nor how it was to be paid. No one cared. A stranger, coming to Wichita, as he met each individual unit that made up Wichita, would have at once exclaimed:

"There is either liquor in his pate or money in his purse,
When he looks so merrily."

Up to this hour we were on smooth seas, under benign skies, and unconscious that the rapids were but a little way below us. We had never known defeat, and had the hot blood of past success in our veins. We could well exclaim:

"This is the period of our ambition;
O this blessed hour!"

The cautious individuals who hinted that this "thing" might cost more than it was worth, hunted niches in the walls and as mummies sat like their "grandsires cut in alabaster." To have faith in things hoped for was a part of our creed, and he that dallied was a dastard, and he that doubted we already damned by an almost unanimous vote, and if the "boomers" could have fixed the penalty, like a Missouri jury, each ominous croaking raven would have left the town or climbed a telegraph pole.

We admitted no doubts; had no patience with the man whose caution bade him hold his purse-strings; and urged each other on, so that the entire seething mass of humanity resembled a mob, which, moved by one impulse, rushed to the hanging, and each unit, when alone, was afraid of his own shadow. Collectively we were—

"All too confident to give admittance to a doubt."

On that day we were so purse-proud and pecuniarily plethoric that if the secretary of the United States treasury had requested a guaranty on an issue of government bonds, we would probably have wired him as follows:

Wichita, Kan., July 4, 1887.

"Your wire received. Don't issue bonds; draw on us for the amount required.—Wichita Board of Trade."

At this ambitious day we felt no misgivings as to the future. We all felt like Al Thomas, who dropped a \$20 gold piece and hesitated as to whether or not to stop and pick it up, for fear he would lose \$40 worth of time. If on the evening of that day an absolutely true and correct horoscope of Wichita ten years hence could have been shown us, the drug stores would have run short on arsenic, prussic acid, antimony, strychnine, hemlock, hellebore, nightshade, belladonna, aconite, laudanum and all kindred poisons. We would have become students in toxicology. The fumes from hundreds of unlighted gas jets would have told of escaping gas; the town would have been a charnel house; grave diggers would have rivaled plumbers in per cent per hour; undertakers would have astonished the coffin manufacturers of the United States in their telegraphic demands for coffins; we would in ten

days have drawn the line on metallic caskets and "bulled" the market on poplar and "yaller pine."

The Creator brings us to bear our ills by gradual stages and by easy and slow descent.

The misery, want, woe and desolating scenes we have witnessed since July 4, 1887, can never be told to a stranger without risk of being informed that the grand lodge of the Ananias Club, with a Sapphira (Eastern Star, Rebecca or Woman's Relief Corps) annex to the same, evidently has its annual meetings in Wichita. Who can believe that bankers are outcasts, speculators tramps, merchants day laborers, lawyers section hands and society people reduced to penury, beggary and brought face to face with absolute want; diamonds pawned for food; and watches with monograms on "'em" sold for one-fifth of their cost; furniture mortgaged to friends and shipped on Sunday to avoid attachments; thousands of deeds and mortgages made and dated back a year, to save something as salvage from the greatest financial and local storm that the United States ever beheld since old Noah loaded his ark and steered for dry land on the highlands of Armenia; the uplands overlooking the second bottom of the waters that surrounded the plateau of Araxes, cycles of time before Jim Mead, Dutch Bill and the original Buffalo William swapped beads for buffalo hides at the junction of the St. Peter and St. Paul, and founded the town of Wichita.

Note.—Some may say I should not get down to "brass tacks" on these reminiscences; but "Grover" some years ago (and "Grover" is one of my tutelary gods and patron saints) said, "Tell the truth," and I have resigned my membership in the Ananias "outfit," quit shaking plum trees, put on my belt, and stuck my George Washington hatchet in it, and dare not lie—"I'd like to, but I dissent."

To return to the cold mutton, the Board of Trade was convened, the Burton Stock Car man and the inebriate he had with him for an attorney arrived. After several meetings, a contract with no marrow in it was drawn up. The same was read over in the parlor of the Manhattan Hotel, and rejected; another was drawn and approved by the inebriate aforesaid. Old man "Perkins" read it over, and he saw that he needed a lawyer, and he got one.

The next morning a new contract was submitted, and it was a "jug-handled contract," had two handles, and both of them

on one side—and Perkins had hold of both handles—and it was a glazed jug, and there was no place for Wichita to get a hold on at all. “Things hung fire.” We knew that to sign this up was simply wilful and deliberate suicide. Colonel Lewis was the only man who denounced the contract. Some of the others wanted to say something, but all were mum, until Lewis spoke. We could not get the boys to take \$200,000 of the stock of the company.

We wanted “car works,” but we wanted ’em on the homeopathic plan. This dose was an allopathic dose, by an old-fashioned regular, who was brought up on blue mass and calomel, and who bled patients as Dolds bleed hog. Hence, we went slow, cautious, just as if we were hunting a match, after attending a “Bobby Burns” banquet, and wanted to get to bed without falling over a sewing machine or cradle. At last Oak Davidson said if the Board of Trade would make him a guaranty of \$50,000 he would subscribe \$200,000 stock.

Oak’s nerve secured the Burton Car Works.

That night the Board of Trade sent out a note to the “tops” of the board, just as a “feeder” selects a carload of best steers to send to market, and the “tops” aforesaid met in the room where Ferguson’s office is. At 9 o’clock that night, the guaranty was duly signed and delivered. The guarantors wanted to “cover their bet,” and it was agreed that nothing should be said about the guaranty, but the board should announce that instead of taking \$200,000 stock, we were to raise in cash, by subscription, the sum of \$50,000 instead of stock.

The board issued a call to the entire membership to meet at the board rooms the next morning at 9 o’clock. At the hour named, fifty men were on hand. Some were almost ill, but imbued with the spirit of Ligarius, who said, when Brutus sent for him: “I am not sick if Brutus have in hand any exploit worthy of the name of honor.”

The war was on!

The campaign was planned.

The town was cut into twelve parts. The country adjacent to town was cut into four parts; sixteen committees, each of three men, were appointed, and their district was given them. A general committee was appointed to oversee the work of the other committees. A special committee was appointed to correspond with nonresident land-owners and absent members of the board. Each committee was to report at 6 o’clock in the evening, deliver

the subscriptions taken, and receive instructions for the morrow. At evening, weary men and jaded horses occupied the street at Levy's bank, now Boston Store. The first \$40,000 was raised without great labor. The last \$10,000 was like pulling jaw teeth. The last \$3,000 was harder work than the \$47,000. The lists were overhauled, revised, to see that "no guilty man escaped." Then came the increasing of the subscriptions already made. At last the executive committee announced that the committees might disband.

The victory was ours!

As to whether or no Kansas City at any time wanted the Burton Car Works, no one ever knew. Whether this was a pure bluff to "rib us up," no one ever learned.

When this business was all finished, 90 per cent of the board had some doubts as to the success of the Burton Car Works, but loyalty forbade any comment or carping criticism.

The members had faith in the general directors. The town had faith in the board.

The "Eagle" proclaimed our victory; yet "things" were taking on a darker hue. There were clouds in the sky, but we dared not own up to each other the thoughts that we "thunk." Full well we knew that the carrier pigeons of spite and malice were being sent out daily proclaiming our downfall. The old proverb applied to us: "For a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings, shall tell the matter."

It was no profit to tell our people that "He that observeth the winds shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap."

We had finished sowing, and knew that unless we reaped quickly the "stuff" would rust, burn and mildew.

Our only hope was in the patriotism of our own people. The simon-pure speculator was gone. We were as a man who had built a house and no cash with which to furnish it. We had all the elements that go to make up a city save manufactories. Something must be done, and in the language of Mrs. Macbeth: "If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly."

The Burton Car Works would not, directly, consume cattle, hogs or sheep, corn, wheat or oats. These things were germane to our soil, and we reasoned as follows: that to ship out all this in a raw state, and pay two or three profits and two freight bills, to

get a part of the same back, was nonsense. Hence our needs were industries.

Ten thousand "Eagles," on double wings, announcing our triumph, bore our hopes to every point of the compass, to impede if not arrest the brewing hurricane. Coming events before them shadows cast. And the stoutest held his breath. We knew we were drooping, paling, falling, fading, sinking, and almost ready to flounder. As small boys going by a graveyard, we shouted and whistled to "skeer" away the ghosts. Among our intimates, we closed the doors, stopped the keyholes, peeped in the closets and spoke in loud whispers or grave, low, funereal tones. Metaphorically, we unto each other said:

Note the values sinking daily wi' th' sun!

Unless relief be furnished, our sands of life shall run.

Faster and lower, observe the values go,

As the crawling river melts the mountain snow.

Soon the storm will burst in fury o'er our defenseless head,

And the Princess of the Plains will be numbered 'mongst the dead.

The Board of Trade resolved that we must for a time forget everything save cementing the foundation on which the town rested. We resolved we must have solid underpinning, viz.:

Packing houses.

Elevators.

Glucose and starch factories.

Straw board factories.

Canning factories.

All in the order above named. We interviewed Armour, Swift, Nels Morris, Fowler, and from each of them received the information that packing west of the Missouri river was nonsense. The elevator et al. things were dropped. We were fishing for whale and wanted no small fish (not even a hundred-pound mudcat). We then had men whose private business was not only neglected but ruined in trying to ward off the blows that fell on Wichita; men who forgot their own affairs to hold up the town. There were men who lived at the Board of Trade rooms; who could be found there daily, and among these men were N. A. English, George H. Blackwelder, George L. Rouse, Pat Healy, N. F. Niederlander, A. W. Oliver. Others worked, spent time, money, answered every call by the board, but attended to their own business. These

six men were invoiced at a million dollars. They and their fellows at many millions, and if the establishment of packing houses, the founding of schools, and the securing of the C., R. I. & P. R. R. and other things can be estimated in money, these men were worth to Wichita all these things by their dollars; but by their example not only at that time, but for all time.

On that date there were many Elijahs—the Elishas who shall catch and wear their fallen mantles are yet incog. Of the men who labored for Wichita, there are many whose names deserve to be printed in capitals, whenever used. Yet it would be unjust to these loyal and unselfish men not to state that there were men at that date whose names in long primer would be a decoration, and whose real size is small pica or great primer.

Wichita, at that date, or shortly after, resembled a callow youth, brought up on small beers, who had reached the brandy and champagne stage, suddenly brought to face with native wine, diluted with water; being unable to sacrifice his passion for liquor, he at least wanted the aroma.

We died hard, and among the bolder souls was the determination to “bet the last dollar,” and “let the tail go with the hide.” Like the thrifty housewife, with a lean larder, we put on a bold frontage and kept up appearances.

The paving of streets, building a court house and a city building has its prototype in the family who eats thin soup to keep a carriage.

Governor Stanley and others thought that \$25,000 invested in small concerns would grow to large ones; but this was unheeded in the harpooning of the Dold and Whittaker whales, and when we landed the whales we were, as a Board of Trade, hopelessly insolvent, and a large majority of the membership of the Board of Trade were beggars.

Note.—Ottumwa, Ia., with half of Wichita’s population, furnishes Kansas, Oklahoma et al. states Silver Gloss starch; six towns in Kansas whose population is less than Wichita’s sell Wichita canned goods. Ask your grocer about this. Herein is a pointer for the coming Elishas, Lishas and Ligas on whose shoulders rest the future growth of Wichita.

While Dold was here, one hundred men, who subscribed liberally, attended a meeting, at which Dold was the “star actor,” and not one of them were offered an introduction. This incident and others similar, first cousin, half brother, or at least blood kin to it,

caused that feeling that hastened the general disrespect for a body of men who, though loyal to the core to Wichita, permitted their "Falernian wines" and quail on toast to puff them up so that the smaller men, the lesser units, the dray horses who pulled the load from the ditch, at last exclaimed: "Upon what meat doth this our Cæsar feed, that he is grown so great?"

In criticizing these men, I criticize my friends. That they had faults is admitted, but their faults were but spots on the sun, and in striking a balance there is much to their credit. These leaders are gone, fallen, and their places as organizers have not been filled.

"And yet, despite the snub—the wrong—
The dray horses ne'er failed to carry on
The work so hard they had begun,
But pulled the weary load along."

Few men forget snubs, and it took talk, earnest solicitations, frequent allusions to "harmony, unity, strength, success," to hold the crowd and make it see that prudence dictated that we get Dold's packing house first and wipe out the insults subsequently. The "snub" was obvious.

Mr. Dold asked \$150,000. It was annihilation to delay the thing. We debated, and, like Dona Julia, "vowing we'd ne'er consent, consented." Once again we rang the bells, called out the town to the old court room on First street, and when the hour came we "sold standing room." There was not a candidate for office that dared absent himself from this boiling mass of humanity. Many wanted to be away, but, like "Gene" Field's poem, "If I dared to, but I darsent," they came. The boys knew that it would not do to have a "fall-down." This "play" had to have more than a "one-night stand"; it was a "season-ticket" affair; and if it was damned the "first night" by "bad acting," our name would be "Dennis," "Pants," and we would be "Nit." We did not intend to embark in the "Nit" business; hence there was music in the air, eloquence on the platform, clackers in the gallery, family circle and pit. Nothing that would stimulate man or produce enthusiasm was omitted. Naught that would rouse man or open pocket-books was neglected.

Sluss was there to deliver an extemporaneous address, on which he had spent some hours or days in preparation. He was the field artillery, the heavy ordnance, to be followed by the

small arms, viz.: the Minie, Enfields, Springfields, the Sniders, the Martini-Henry and chassepots, carbines, blunderbusses, smooth-bores, small-bores and old muzzle-loaders, as well as the air-guns. The program was Sluss, and then the ten two-thousand-dollar subscriptions; then more shot and shell, followed by the twenty pledged one-thousand-dollar men; more shot and shell, and then an invitation to the mourners' bench." It was intended to raise \$50,000 at this meeting and adjourn without any subscriptions less than \$1,000. Sluss, as per prior arrangement, was called out by men who knew not the program. Sluss was at his best. He started as a broad and placid river, running through green fields, skirted by rich pastures and fringed by foliage and ended as a cataract; a winding mountain stream, seeking an egress, almost lost to view, suddenly emerging and dashing over a precipice, astonishing and bewildering all beholders. At one moment, his vision comprehended our future hopes; at another, he beheld us prostrate and ruined by failure; triumphant and grave. He played on every string in his harp; pictured competence, wealth and glory to the present, and "riches beyond the dreams of avarice" to succeeding generations, on the one hand; dissolution, beggary and woe, tombstones, neglected graves and the potter's field, on the other. As a prepared speech it was a masterpiece; as an extemporaneous effort, his sentences were burning words, jewels from the alphabet which on Time's forefinger will sparkle while memory lasts. His exordium, in which he painted our future conditions, if we failed in this game, and last the Dold packing house seemed, stretched by oratorical license, beyond the possibilities of failure. And yet his prophecy as to what would come to pass, if we failed, lacked one thousand seven hundred and nineteen and one-eighth per cent of equaling our insolvent condition after we secured two packing houses.

Note.—In the hind-sight of the past, I feel at liberty to state that Sluss "sold as short" on the future condition, compared to the real thing, as the Fourth of July firecracker rivals a modern Krupp.

That Dold meeting was a success. The Creator only knows what our condition would have been if we had failed. Many say worse, some say better, but 90 per cent of those who say worse held their purse-strings and made the load heavier to the men who leaped the ditches and stormed the breastworks. No man who was not on committee knows the pulling, hauling, eajo-

ling, threats, promises, and general all-round abuse received and bestowed in that Dold campaigns. Only the committees know how long and hard the "pull" was.

Of the \$150,000 subscribed, \$25,000 was worthless before called for. We knew not our condition. Men who gave \$2,000 left Wichita as paupers before the house was built; men were called upon to raise their donations, to advance their payments before due. The board anticipated the future and borrowed money, and the members had to indorse the notes. Hess, Corbett, Oliver, J. M. Allen et al. became surety for Wichita, and paid out thousands where they had no interest other than Wichita citizenship.

Some men, who now exist here, beat, on technical grounds, their subscriptions, let others carry their "load," and yet pray loud enough to be heard four blocks. Aye, verily, verily, their voices are heard above the cyclone when it cometh.

Memory brings these men to mind,
When in its paths I travel;
In beloved Wichita I find
Some men are as mean as the d——l.

The Dold house was secured, and, like Alexander, we meditated and hunted for more "hog," and at St. Louis we found him. And as the days go by, I will tell o' that campaign and the heroic struggle to "win out."

January 8, 1899.

CHRONICLE VI.

"Men there have been in our time, as in all time, shorn of personal magnetism, who possessed the genius of putting their fellows in motion to do a work, which their minds comprehended, but which they were unable to perform."

In straying around, I ran afoul of the above idea in an old book.

The sentiment fits the "Wichita" of 1887. It expresses the difference 'twixt the inventor and mechanic; the architect and builder; the man who plans and the one who executes. Wichita had architects in the superstructure "Wichita" who were so "grained" that they could not dig, or lay brick, carry mortar, or "groin the aisles," yet their vision beheld the completed work,

even as the painter or sculptor sees the finished art ere a touch of the brush or a stroke of the chisel. These Wichita architects were followed by builders, unable to plan anything, but who were gifted with the power of convincing men who had money that "the half was greater than the whole"; that there was "a giving that made man rich, a withholding that made men poor." The best donation beggar in Wichita was George H. Blackwelder. Al Thomas was a graduate, but George had a "knack" of convincing men that they themselves were good beggars, but before they started out to beg their own subscription was needed. He obtained a donation and new recruit. George's theory was that no man ought to ask another to subscribe until he had made his own subscription. In other words, he said, "Come along," not "Go along."

Suggestive of begging which may come to pass after the coming "Elishas" take up the work, "Wichita."

An illustration of "Come along or go along" as a policy may be in place:

A captain in the rebellion used to tell how, in 1861, he was making a speech, urging everybody to go to war. He had, then, no idea of being the subject of "Johnnies' target practice." As he closed his speech, an old lady in the audience arose and said:

"Bill, you've told the other boys what to do; now what are you going to do?"

The future captain said: "Realizing that the meeting was depending on me for success, I said, 'I am going to war.'"

The Wichita secret was "come along," not go along.

In the latter part of 1888 the city of Hutchinson got hold of Lord & Thomas, of Chicago, and through them were endeavoring to get some industries. Our boys got wind of the "thing," and sent for Lord & Thomas, and though no one ever at any time owned up to the truth, our "Board of Trade," as a body, were guilty of the vice, if not crime, of trying to steal the Hutchinson industries. No one had courage enough to denounce the scheme. We sent a committee of ten to Chicago, made a contract, put up \$10,000, and, so far as the town was concerned, lost the money, as well as our own self-respect. No good ever came out of the matter, and the deep damnation of our conduct will remain to disturb our dreams to the end of our time.

The Whittaker Packing Company was now "on string." The committee of ten, representing the picked men of the board, were then in Chicago. All knew that Dold had "set the hair" on the

price; that Whittaker would not permit himself to accept less; but we, at that date, did not know that Whittaker was on the "ragged edge"; that he needed our money to carry over the approaching "Whittaker falls," which were only a little way off. Whittaker was a "plunger" in his own right. Our gift simply went to pay a part of his debts (part of which were "wheat-deal" losses, as we were subsequently informed).

Whittaker posed as the head of a house which was started in 1848; sold ham for the officers and "sow-belly" for the soldiers during the war; hence he was the real "thing," and we were led to believe that he was of greater value than Dold. Therefore in getting him at the same price was just like buying "General Arthurs" and "Tom Moores" at a nickel apiece. Of course, a closer investigation of Whittaker would have resulted in throwing him overboard. But we are better off now than if we had "investigated," for the reason: packing houses, like car shops and railroads, when built, eventually get under the wing of some one able to run them, at a figure that gives a profit. True, they for a spell may be dormant, but dormancy is not annihilation. Every dollar put in these things will prove to be worth it to those who "hang on." Every dollar put in these things by "boomers" would have gone in some other "rathole." That Cudahy is better than Whittaker, no one has any doubt.

Providence, destiny, nature, fate, chance, or what you may name it, so arranged "things" that the impending ruin overhanging us was not to be avoided. So preordained were results that the then present crowd of "boomers" should be thrashed to straw; ground 'twixt the upper and nether milestones; beaten flat as hammered gold, and torn by rude winds and creditors to a ragged and frazzled fringe, beyond recognition and identity.

The writer of this is of the opinion that as the "boomer" talked of great benefit to succeeding generations by his labor and money, he may be gratified by the good to come out of the Burton Car, Presbyterian outlook, as well as a philosophical view of looking at things; hence we adopt this view.

To return to the sheep: Some work had been done looking to the donation to Whittaker. The outlook was not encouraging. There was no cash in sight. Notes in bank represented at least \$50,000 of the sums subscribed to the Burton Car Works and Dold. The banks had pro-rated loans (to their customers) to raise this \$50,000. These loans were, in a great part, renewed.

Hence cash to any new scheme was not to be considered. Yet no one thought we could not, in some undefined, unknown way, raise the subsidy.

One rainy afternoon, when the whole earth looked dismal and gloomy, and the writer was at home with quincy, George C. Strong and George L. Douglas came after him in a hack to attend a meeting and discuss the situation. At this meeting Scott Corbett was sent for; then Colonel Lewis. At 5 o'clock a meeting was held in Judge Sluss' office, and some rude drafts of donations, in three or four forms, were submitted to Sluss and recast by him.

These memoranda were reduced to four sets or forms:

First—Subscriptions outright to the general subsidy fund, to be used to procure any needed industry.

Second—Deeds, with and without any conditions.

Third—Mortgages, with and without conditions.

Fourth—Conditional location subscriptions.

All this was rushed to a printing office, to be ready next evening.

The amount of money to be raised for the general fund to be used by trustees "for any needed industry" was at least \$300,000. We said to ourselves: Cash, 50 cents; land, \$1; take your choice.

At that date we did not—could not—realize that lands and lots appraised by fair men at near a half million dollars would eventually be a drug at twenty-five cents on the dollar. We now know that if we had not caught a "sucker" we could not have sold the stuff at twelve and one-half cent on the dollar.

"Allah be praised for such suckers!"

In fact, a great deal of this so-called property would have caused a law suit some years later if a grantor, by stealth, had caused some of it to be put in a deed unbeknownst to the grantee. But at that date it had a value, based on the "tail end of the boom."

We in our minds figured that a half million dollars of property sold at fifty cents on the dollar would leave at least \$200,000, after allowing for shrinkage in handling, exchange, transportation, counting, abrasion and short weight. This \$200,000 would buy Whittaker and get some small industries. The small-industry

crank was always making profert of himself and urging the board to put out \$50,000 to assist "infant industries," but the board was as deaf as an adder to these cranks. Having embarked on the sea to catch packing-house whales, we did not intend to be diverted from our "catch."

In this campaign we forgot the Board of Trade and enlisted every man (and some women) in Wichita. This general subsidy was a citizens' subsidy, and was not put on foot as a Board of Trade scheme. The board subsequently managed, controlled, mortgaged and pledged the same, but this was no part of the original scheme. The scheme, when born, had as many god-fathers as a Mormon kid has stepmothers, but so far as the writer knows, George Strong and George Douglas were wet-nurses at accouchement; Sluss was the boss Aesculapius, with L. D. Skinner, Scott Corbett and Colonel Lewis and others as "bottle holders" and "spongers."

Unlike the Dold campaign, this drama was a Chinese play, and ran all day as well as at night.

Some men were becoming hollow-eyed, sleepless, restive. The question was, Shall we stop or bet a half million assets on the general result? The majority said, bet. The next move was to rouse everybody and turn the town into a Methodist revival at the Board of Trade rooms.

"Enthusiasm imparts itself magnetically and fuses all within its zone into one happy and harmonious unity of feeling and sentiment." The above sentiment is good as far as it reaches. In Wichita, after the boom burst, bankruptcy; and all our boomers had only a cake of soap with which to wash themselves to the shore of the financial flood, the above definition of enthusiasm was as much out of place as knickerbockers on a fifteen-year-old kid. Though no philological society formally revamped the definition, we gradually adopted the idea that the true meaning of enthusiasm was about as follows, viz.:

Enthusiasm is the temporary idiocy of a man who, on ordinary occasions, has common horse sense.

After we located Dold, Wichita suspended all rules relating to business principles, and took a day off that lasted a spell. And in that day we conducted business as sober men generally conduct themselves at a "Bobby Burns banquet" or New Year calls. We were rich, and we did not attempt to conceal it. A man who was not connected with corporations or town-lot addi-

tions was a miserable manikin. He was a "feather-top," bereft of friends, and was shunned by all, even as much as an American citizen from Honolulu would be who should appear on Douglas avenue with jaundice. He might make oath he was not a leper, but we'd know from his looks that he was a leper, walking around to save funeral expenses.

The "Eagle," next day after the meeting at Sluss' office, had some calls to Wichita to go to the Board of Trade rooms. At 9 o'clock there were at least 500 men, everybody talking at once. A meeting at night was arranged. Governor Stanley said:

"We want a band, music, songs, etc., so everybody will feel good; have some music; then speech, more music; more speech; then music; then donations; then music, etc."

The speakers were Lewis, Stanley, H. Windslow Albert and some exhorters. The result of this meeting was a fall-down as to assets. The next day the crowd was on hand and better in the matter of attendance. The next day was spent in making out names and assessing men as to what they should do. This plan of assessment was not very popular. That night was to be the grand effort. It was to be "Wichita day at the fair." A detail was sent after Dr. John D. Hewitt, the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

Hewitt was an all-around man. As a young man fresh from college, he was launched in life at Helena, Mont., as a pioneer preacher. He saw, in Montana, man in all his phases as God turned man out of the machine as a product; he realized that "environment" had much to do with a man's impulses. He learned that men who possess vices had honesty, benevolence and charity; that men who had no observable vices might be dishonest, selfish and bereft of charity; that men who belonged to his flock might—

"Compound for sins they were inclined to
By damning those they had no mind to!"

Hewitt was of that genus ecclesiastic that in an earlier civilization would have been a Rowland Hill, a Peter Cartwright, or a Lorenzo Dow. He was practical to intensity and was identified with Wichita from the date he came until he went away with many things not ecclesiastic, philanthropic or eleemosynary; many things that tended to inoculate simon-pure worldly money (root

of evil) getting lessons. Hewitt was a "stayer," a "fighter." He knew a king from a jack; he could put "gaffs" on a chicken; he knew a thoroughbred "hoss"; he knew the mainspring that governed men in ordinary life. He not only had a strong hold on the sheep and goats of his flock, but he commanded the respect of Wichita, as a man, by reason of his strong, forceful, energetic methods. His enthusiastic nature was Methodist, from early training. He was a strong Presbyterian with a strain of Methodist alloy. He was the church militant. He might have been one of Hudibras' preachers, of whom he said:

For his religion it was fit
To match his learning and his wit;
'Twas Presbyterian, true blue;
He was of that ecclesiastic crew
Whom all men grant
To be the church militant,
Who build faith upon
The text of pike and gun,
And prove their doctrine orthodox
By apostolic blows and knocks.

Therefore, in enlisting Hewitt, we were getting a hold on his flock, securing an earnest speaker, who believed what he said; a good practical reasoner, who saw in the growth of Wichita the upbuilding of many churches. Hewitt was once criticized for accepting money from a saloon-keeper. He replied that he would always accept the devil's money to fight him with.

Day after day, night after night, we pounded, begged, argued, promised, threatened, persuaded. My recollection is, Governor Stanley made many speeches. He and others spoke until their voice was gone and their argument "thinner" than "hot Scotch" at 3 a. m., after a Burns banquet.

The subsidy raised was to be conveyed to five trustees. These men had to have the confidence of the people. One drizzling night a boy came to the writer's home with a note to get Colonel Murdock and N. F. Niederlander and go to the board rooms. In those days, to be notified was to go. We arrived at the rooms. There were perhaps 200 men present. It had been decided to select the five trustees to hold the so-called "half million" of assets. As usual, there were factions—the old crowd, the new crowd and

the men who had no ax to grind. After calling the crowd to order and stating the object of the meeting, the chairman seated himself, and twenty men were on the floor at once, shouting "Mr. Chairman!"

Things looked mixed. By accident, George Matthews was recognized, and he nominated Sluss as one of the trustees. This was seconded. Then there was a roar. One man, who was hounded into giving anything, kicked on Sluss like a "Texas steer." Demands were made for adjournment; voted down; motion for electing by ballot; voted down; motion to elect by voting a ticket with five names; voted down. Some one moved to vote on each name proposed and seconded, until we had five selected; carried.

"Then many were called, but few chosen."

Scott Corbett was named and elected; a half dozen names proposed and rejected; Albert A. Hyde named and elected; Robert E. Lawrence named and elected; then a brigade named and voted down; then John M. (J. M. "Johnnie") Allen was named and elected; and we adjourned.

Note.—Four of the trustees selected were Presbyterians; Sluss was a Methodist. The meeting was a general, promiscuous crowd. Two-thirds of the crowd believed in Christianity, but did not believe in any particular scheme of final redemption after foreclosure, but by accident picked out five churchmen to handle the cash.

George Matthews evidently in his young days went to see a Methodist girl and attended revivals. One night George got the floor and moved that every man who was a subscriber to the fund go to the west side of the room and all non-subscribers go to the east side. The subscribers filled the west wall as "statoos," and soon the other crowd began to hunt holes. Little Pierce locked the east door and south door, so that "the way out" was through the west door, and the crowd of subscribers. The scheme was a regular evangelistic trick, but it worked in business just as it works in religion. Some weak men surrendered; some able-bodied ones got mad and "cussed." As a scheme it was a success; as a policy it was damnable.

One night a boomer who owned twenty acres of land, that cost him \$1,000 and which was platted as ————— addition, into as many lots as it would make, got up on the floor and made a speech as to our general, particular and specific duty in the

premises; spoke of his purchase; his addition; its value at \$200 per lot, running into many thousands, and everybody supposed he was going to donate at least half of the addition; but he didn't; he gave two lots. The groan was such that he left the hall, and never made a deed.

As I remember, Oak Davidson's donation, it was three times as large as any other donation.

The donations being all made, the gathering in of the assets took as much labor as the bookkeeping of a receiver of a busted bank. At least ten per cent was so tangled as to be worthless. A large per cent was mortgaged. When appraised, the second time, for the Peel syndicate, the assets dwindled half. The amount of stuff that went into the Peel syndicate left but little available assets. Not enough was left to secure the indorsers on the notes in bank, to pay the borrowed money of the board.

The men who skinned the Board of Trade on the sale of land, for locations, themselves got skinned at the final "round-up."

The Peel syndicate was "peeled." One Greenwood in St. Louis and one A. K. Florida, who had connections in "Hengland" formed the Peel syndicate and floated the concern. They paid Wichita \$150,000 and it is said received twice that sum for doing it. Florida killed himself.

Old Abe Hewitt, the Democratic mayor, who would not let any flag but "old glory" float on the New York city hall, was a heavy subscriber to the Peel fund, and now has a lot of lots for sale, at low prices. See "King-George" for list, at corner of Douglas and Lawrence avenue, second floor front.

Note: George is to give me a "rake-off" for this notice. Anyone buying after this date please notify me at 111 South Main street, room 1, second floor.—George is Geo. Spencer.

GENERAL INSOLVENCY.

A great many men claim their subscription to these industries "broke" them. This may be true in some instances, but in three, personally known to me, it is untrue, as follows:

No. 1. There is a duodecimo biped here who tells that the Dold and Whittaker "business" broke him. He paid Dold by material at 25 per cent profit, i. e., he paid \$500 in \$400 worth of "stuff." He beat his subscription to Whittaker on a technicality.

No. 2. Another animaleculae-souled stands frequently at the corner of Main and Douglass and "cusses" the Board of Trade generally, and Dold and Whittaker specially, for shortcomings on their contracts. He never paid a nickel on either contract.

No. 3. There is a bald-headed cadaver who uses profanity as semi-colons and periods in his ordinary conversation for greater emphasis. He cannot express himself on the "Eagle," Dold packing house, Whittaker plant, Burton car works, Garfield college and other "things" without having a spasm; almost an epileptic fit; linguistic jim-jams. When he goes to "cussin" he gets choked up. His eyes roll like a "cullered pusson" drunk on "lection" day. He heaves like "hoss" with heaves; has blind staggers; froths like an insane canine; grunts like a hog with cholera; squirts his poison like a tree-toad. This "critter" robbed a dead man; "boomed" on land way out of town, and so far as known made no donation.

When the board was raising money for Burton car works he refused to give a cent. One day nine men agreed to work on him in three squads. Squad one was to go at 10 a. m. and stay till noon; squad two, from 2 to 4; squad three, from 4 to 6. Squad one was W. P. Carey, A. L. Houck and the writer; squad two had Al Thomas, as for chairman; squad three was headed by Corbett. The three squads spent the day with this man. He swore six (6) hours without a break. The next day he was informed that the scheme was a put up job by Al Thomas to let him have a continuous "swear," and that no one supposed he would give a cent. He was so mad he swallowed a "cigar stub," as reported by Al Thomas to the board.

These incidents are given to show how men lie as to what caused their general insolvent condition.

Wichita's boom was, in fact, "busted" prior to securing either Burton, Dold or Whittaker, but we didn't know it. We hadn't heard it.

This was the condition of Wichita. Months and years rolled away after the boom busted before we heard of it.

'Twas the sheriff's rude voice,
With a writ in his hand,
That roused the "boomer" frae his slumber.

'Twas the stopping of renewals on notes; the demand for currency, legal tender, circulating medium, specie, coin, hard

cash, pence, shillings, pounds, rhino, blunt dust, mopus, tin salt, chink, "yaller daddies," that caused us to study numismatics in all its varied forms and phases.

'Twas the voice of the court: "That the plaintiff have and recover of and from said defendant the sum of ten thousand dollars," etc., that forced upon us the fact that the full-blown bladder of our pride was losing air; that our El Dorado was "nit;" Pactolus, gone, Goleonda vanished. We were no longer Nabob, Midas, Croesus, Gould, Astorbilt or Vanderfellow. We rode no longer. We walked, and were simply plain people. As Lon Hodings says: "Gildersleeve was Gildersleeve once more."

WICHITA EGOTISM.

Our egotism prompts us to claim all our successes as the result of our great, throbbing, purring brain, working like a Corliss engine; but our pride charges all ill success to the machinations of some unknown astrological devil. We don't consult soothsayers, as in the days "when Caesar in the senate fell, and the sun, in resentment of his slaughter, looked pale and hid his face a year after," but we still ha' some lingering superstitions in us and trace our misfortunes to some cause as idiotic as the augury of the sun-dried entrails of a white chicken, hatched by a "yaller" hen, on the anniversary of Caesar's birth. This, and all this, we do, rather than "fess" our vaulting ambition o'er leaped itself "and left us in the ditch."

THE OKLAHOMA BOOM.

One day Senator Plumb wrote a letter to Wichita that the Oklahoma opening band wagon was enroute, and that notwithstanding the personal feelings of Wichita and the Southwest, as to the effect on Kansas by this Indian Territory being thrown open to settlement, the only thing to do was to get into the band wagon and all take a ride. We "got" immediately. We had a meeting at once. We had Crocker and others here at once, and called a meeting at the Crawford Grand that was a "James Dandie."

Weaver, once a candidate for president, was here.

Charles Mansur, congressman from Missouri, was here.

Old (Illinois) Bill Springer, afterward judge in the territory, was here. We played our hand for every cent that was in it. We were the home of David L. Payne, the original "Oklahoma Boomer," beginning in 1874. Bill Couch was one of our "things." Bill was the "Elisha" who caught Dave Payne's falling mantle ere it struck the dust in Sumner county. Wichita, by right of ownership, was the place to have the monster Oklahoma meeting. This meeting was a grand-stand play, and played to standing room only. Congress was absolutely paralyzed by our demonstration, and passed the bill as soon as it could after our meeting.

This proved to us that Oklahoma as a buyer of goods, wares and merchandise, was to be our commercial solution. It has so proved. It is the customer that will never fail us. We will be its Kansas City. It will be to us in trade, "Kansas expansion."

When Oklahoma has two million people Wichita will be forced to add millions of capital to do business. The peopling of Oklahoma is Wichita's greatest source of prosperity.

Long live Oklahoma!

RECAPITULATION.

So much for the past; the happy past; the red, red past, when it was a mile and a half through sunflowers from the "avenue" to the Eagle's home; when on "election" day the First ward ran to the Red river; when, at night, o'er the drowsy town was heard the old familiar sound: 76, 42, 98, 21, 39, 64, 57, 22, Keno!

Adieu to the past, the diabolical and fiendish past; the protested past; the past of foreclosures, fraudulent deeds and mortgages, writs of assistance, proceedings in aid of execution, notices to quit and the multiform actions of relentless creditors to rob debtors.

Welcome! thrice welcome! the past of 1885 to 1888, when gladness shone in every face, hope beamed from every eye and the happiness and buoyancy crowded, packed and jammed into thirty-six square miles on the Big and Little Arkansas, never has been equalled.

Let natural Wichita pick up the burden that broke the back of the youthful Wichita, and under the pennant

In harmony, triumph; in unity, fall,
Be the banner sheltering all.

achieve victory.

RETROSPECTION AND PROGNOSTICATION.

(Hindsight and Foresight.)

Wichita, commercially, in 1887, was a nude hope, based on a sight-draft drawn on A. D. 1899. The draft was protested, but we did not get notice of the "protest," and still worked "puts and calls," "blinds" and "straddles," "margined," "bullied" and sold "short." We knew we were all right.

But one summer day,
We were "short" on cash,
The devil was to pay
And we went to smash.

The above beautiful sentiment is "cribbed" from Homer, Virgil, Chaucer, Dryden, Horace, Ovid, Terence, Ben Johnson or Sam Butler, I forget which, but I know that some ancient pen propeller dipped his quill into a solution of nut galls and logwood and "writ them air" four lines.

A. D. 1910.

The Wichita of 1910 is a grown man, a strong, healthy, able-bodied man, subject to a draft in a case of war. An entity of flesh, blood and iron, who in any commercial joust or tourney can sit firm in his saddle, give the horse his head, poise his bull-hide buckler and withstand the shock of any knight that dates to fight in open field under the rules of Charles th' Great, Martel and Ethelbert; the regulations of Donnybrook, the progressive and higher civilization of Rugby football, or, the rules of the Marquis of Queensberry, as amended by Congressman John Morrissey of New York and used by Fitzsimmons, Jeffries and Johnson.

The year 1874 was grasshopper milestone; 1886 was a boom milestone; 1889 was the milestone of depression, insolvency and bankruptcy. But the year 1910 is the renaissance of commerce.

"The Kansas" palengenegis.

'Tis a promise, a hope based on the enterprises that have grown up since the boom waned, sickened and died.

Without departing from our plan, glance for a moment at—
Burton Car Works, to be operated.

Dold, a success from beginning.

Whittaker, to be operated soon.

Fairmount, a success.

Garfield (now Friends' University).

Lewis Academy, a success.

Rock Island railroad.

Midland railroad—Frisco, operator.

City building and County Court House. Forum.

Miles of paving.

United States Court House.

Two thousand feet of brick frontage and ten-story buildings.

Hundreds of fine homes.

The finest city park in Kansas.

Water works unequaled.

Wholesale trade in many lines, all prosperous.

Four hundred commercial travelers.

Half million people in Oklahoma, with Wichita as nearest commercial capital.

Twenty to thirty prosperous manufacturing concerns.

At least \$4,000,000 of new assets that are safe, permanent and secure more than we had in 1887, when we said we were a city.

Now, consider the water squeezed out of all values, and present values as the base to build on. Is it egotistic for Wichita to feel that

“Every prospect pleases and only man (some other man) is vile?”

The rainbow in our sky is bright. Every color is visible save blue. In 1889 to 1898 blue was the predominant hue. In truth we may say that

A rosy red o'ercasts our sky;
Many happy faces illuming;
A hope there is in every eye,
As just before the “booming.”

Mankind is up and down. We've been down; we are rising. In all things we have the dark and the light, good and bad, the beautiful and the ugly, the sweet and sour, the false and true. In other phrase, existence is

Hope and despair; pleasure and pain.
Darkness and light; sunshine and rain.

Thro' the web of life are the shining threads and sombre ones.

Let us remember the past with its sorrowful lesson, yet give credit to the things of value; forget the bitterness. He without hope may well exclaim:

“They have tied me to a stake;
I cannot fly,
But bear-like, I must fight my course.”

As Whittier says:

“Alas for him who never sees
The stars shine through the trees.”

Without hope, faith is a corpse. Hope spreads its golden wings and lures us mortals on thro' burn and briar, fen and forest; through wind and storm, hail and rain. We forget all save the promise in the future. Hope is our anchor in business, as faith is the anchor of the Christian. Destroy hope and annihilate faith and we are but as wolves preying on each other.

Let every business man in Wichita proclaim that never before did the sun shine as bright, luring men to chase the butterfly.

Let the pessimist howl, and then outhowl him.

Let the “New Wichita” and the robust fragments of the “Old Wichita” with united brain and arm pull altogether. Each period of time produces its own leaders, in war and peace, literature, progressive civilization and commerce. The new men of Wichita, from necessity, must lift up and carry the load. The old bottles won't hold the new wine.

Let new Wichita under the banner: Harmony, Unity, Strength, Success, march to success and make Wichita in fact, what it was to our fancy in 1887, ere we, by industries and solid buildings, buttressed its foundations to ward off and break the storm that shook Wichita as an earthquake, and when the sky was cleared beheld our ruined fortunes, and yet realized the wisdom “that builded wiser than it knew.” And at this date realize that our present worth and real valuable acquisitions are the things that we secured and builded when our property ceased to have a market value.

This closes the scheme of these chronicles. Though written for amusement, they may contain a lesson. Adieu.

May, 1910.

CHAPTER XXI.

REVIEW OF CITY

By

KOS HARRIS.

“Gather rose-buds while we may;
Old time is still flying;
The fairest rose-bud of today,
Tomorrow may be dying.”

To the Editor of the “Eagle:”

When Wichita is moss grown, when it reaches the second or third generation of the “lean and slippered pantaloons,” when some local chronicler prowls around to substantiate some myth; verify some legend, or preserve some fading fact, then interesting to our grandchildren even unto the third and fourth generation; when the preservative feature in town history overtakes us, then Wichita will eventually regret that nothing was done to call back the receding past. In an humble way, in by-gone days, the writer has written some pieces, published in the “Eagle,” “Mirror” and “Beacon,” which may contain a few grains of wheat, amongst its chaff, to put in a bound volume by some historical society. Wichita, so far, as a town, has taken no step to preserve any fact in its history. This paper is not broadcasted for pelf, nor the laudation of self, but simply to remind the people of Wichita and call their attention to the duty of the present to adopt some method to embalm the past, for the amusement and instruction of the future, when the present Wichita is counted and numbered in the census to be taken from year to year from the ghostly stones in the silent city on the eastern hill, that overlooks the city, which stones admonish the passengers on the Frisco train daily, that in the midst of life we are liable soon to be dead; dead as Adam, Rameses or a desiccated political hack. Simply to write a dry fact and file it away for the use of the historical artist to come after us, who will adorn it and preserve it, is neither labor nor waste of

time; to write the future in detail, so as to be worthy of adoption by the future chronicler as a fact to be credited to the real author, will please your grandchildren, when ye are dust of ashes.

Many things have impelled me to write this piece, but the "motor" that caused me to work at the present moment was a letter written from Iowa, asking me to give my recollection as to the location of an old wooden building in the town in which I was born, in which my father had an office in July, 1861. It struck me that an appeal to the recollection of a nine years'-old-boy, proved that facts are fleeting, even amongst the denizens of a town in the whirl-i-gig of time. Wichita on some former occasions has adopted suggestions by the writer and his associates and in connection with this piece and its legends. I believe the suggestions made herein are worthy of attention. One infirmity of the human mind that has come under my notice, is the old residential liar, who recalls facts that no contemporary ever heard of; another is the fact that some men remember absolutely nothing; and lastly, is the fact that some men remember vaguely, but conversation enables them to recollect facts. I received a letter last week from an old friend in an adjoining county, who answered a letter to me as to what took place in a land sale in A. D. 1875, where Frazier's drug store now is situated, and the answer of my correspondent, a succinct statement covering one page of typewritten matter, is as clear cut as a stamp on "a dollar of our daddies" just stuck from the United States mint. This and all this has moved me to call a meeting of myself and appoint a committee to take hold of this matter and organize "The Wichita Historical Society," of which the mayor of the city of Wichita shall and his successors until time shall be no more, shall be the chairman; the city council to furnish the store-house for all the wares that are brought to the store-house, which are worthy of preservation, until that future day arrives when the city shall chronicle the past and monument it for the delight, amusement and pastime of the future people of Wichita forever. This society once formed, will endure and when Wichita, as Chicago, commemorates its hundredth year, our hours of saving facts will be appreciated. The society can meet annually and elect its trustees and it recommended that for the first trustees, the following named persons be chosen: Chairman, Mayor B. F. McLean; Secretary, M. M. Murdock; Custodian, John Davidson; Trustees, Doctor Fabrique, Ben Aldrich, M. W. Levy, Robert E. Lawrence,

William C. Little, Mrs. J. H. Aley, Mrs. J. H. Black, Mrs. H. J. Hillis, Mrs. N. A. English.

These trustees to be elected annually, five men and four women, or if you want to be esthetic, five gentlemen and four ladies, or, if rough, five males and four females, as follows: Three, one year; three, two years; three, three years. However, this is a matter of detail and to be governed by the wishes of the trustees. It might be a nice thing to elect three of these trustees for life, as in some New England towns. It would be a tribute to three pioneers, and pleasing to them as to the days of "sans teeth, san eyes and sans taste," approach and they shall live in the autumn haze of recollections, indulging in the pleasant memories of the days that are dead. Every city administration should be a mile post to remember as the days go speeding by, recall the past, the rallying cry of former days and deeds of former years.

Wichita was organized under three trustees, C. A. Stafford, who lived on the land where Abe Wright and Al Bitting now live; Ike Elder, who lives in Harvey county; G. H. Smith, also called Little Smith, who owned the land from Eleventh street to St. Paul's church on Lawrence avenue, who was at one time John Steele's partner and who went into partnership with Uncle Jake Pittinger and then stole all the assets and ran away and from that hour even unto the present day, he hath not been seen or heard of by any man that dwells in Wichita.

The first mayor was Dr. E. B. Allen, and the first council was S. E. Johnson, Charles Schattner, George Schlichter, W. B. Hutchinson, Dr. Fabrique and George Van Tilburg. Harry Van Trees was police judge and Bill Smith the first city marshal. Of these men columns can be written, which will redound to the credit of some and to the dishonor of others, in their conduct as men, citizens and officials. This administration may well be called the beginning of civilization in the Arkansas valley and through this administration was builded the Santa Fe railroad from Newton to Wichita. This was the pioneer civilization administration.

The first three ordinances passed by this council were amplifying, reaching out, "pioneer spreaders" and annexed to the city of Wichita, all that part of the present city lying on the south side of Douglas avenue, from Water street to the Santa Fe depot and also from Lawrence avenue to the Santa Fe depot on the north side and also from the corner of Murdock avenue and Lawrence avenue to Ninth street on the east side of Lawrence avenue, a

strip of ground 150 feet wide and 1,200 feet long. This was done eight days after the council met and was for revenue purposes only, taxable purposes and is recommended to the present administration for the benefit of those people who have sneaked their stuff outside the city limits to avoid taxes and yet at the same time have all the benefits and comforts of a city of 30,000 people.

Jim Hope's Administration will live as the "cattle trade" administration. The character of Jim Hope and his attributes demand a strong artist for their delineation and for the present, any attempt will be omitted.

Geo. Harris' Administration. George Harris' administration (present city treasurer) was the first great wheat year after the "grasshopper" and it was the year that old Eagle Hall was adorned, decorated and festooned with the fruitage of the "happy valley," as named by Commodore Woodman. The people at that time brought forth the first fruit, even as Cain did his sacrifice, to be offered up for the glorification of the Arkansas valley. At this gathering 200 editors from New York and Missouri called upon Wichita and 100 of them got full, fuller than geese and five "of 'em" got left and missed the train. Wichita, from that visit, got about three hundred columns of free write-up and in that primordial stage of evolution from savage ways to modern civilization; in that primeval way, Wichita established its reputation for hospitality and self-abnegation by the surrender of the keys of the gates of the town to the visiting stranger. This freedom to all who visit us is known wherever the commercial traveler makes his way, wherever the newspaper circulates and wherever people whose blood runs warm as wine, congregate, smoke, talk and swap yarns. Some years ago a Boston man said to me, "Once I traveled out of Boston and stopped at many places and for some months I was completely a foreigner. One Sunday morning I reached Wichita and stayed there three days. The day I left Wichita was a regret. Some twenty years have rolled away since that trip and all that I now recall is that once out west I spent three days in Wichita and had the 'time of my life.' I cannot recall, at this time to mind, the name of a solitary individual I met, but if lease of life should be granted to me for more than 969 years, I shall always remember the three days I spent in Wichita, in the year A. D. 1876, in the 'early month of May, when green buds were a-swellin'."

Greiffenstein's Administration. During Greiffenstein's time from 1878 to 1885, were glorious, great and triumphant years. The Frisco railroad and the Missouri Pacific railroad were built; the Santa Fe went west to Kingman and south to Wellington; the Gas Company's franchise was granted; the water works franchise and the opera house, old Turner Hall at the corner of First and Market streets was builded by a syndicate and bonds were issued on five years' time at five per cent interest and stood to the patriotic citizens of Wichita to enable the Germans to build the old Turner Hall. These years were busy years, full of joy and profit and a modicum of tears. During the year A. D. 1879, 1,000 town lots were sold at a judicial tax sale for the average of \$10.00, and at the present date there are \$100,000 worth of real estate in Wichita held under that judicial tax sale. Pat Healy bought the lot where Gehring's drug store now stands for \$100.00; a lawyer got the corner of Main and William streets for \$100.00. A portion of Governor Stanley's home on Topeka avenue was in this same sale. Oak Davidson's old home at the corner of Murdock and Lawrence avenue was in this sale.

These years were formative years, were guiding stars, and their influence governed succeeding years. These years were the Douglas avenue years, when the Greiffenstein-Steele dynasty planned, directed and executed the things which were undertaken. This was when the war 'twixt Main street and Douglas avenue raged furiously. When a Main street man prowling on Douglas avenue was an ominous portent; when the rear room in Tow Jewell's saloon on Douglas avenue, where George McNeal's barber shop is now situated, was the actual board of trade rooms for Douglas avenue. In this room it is said, Frank Tierman heated with "booze," agreed for \$1.00, love and affection to build to Wichita the Missouri Pacific railroad and place the depot on the corner of First and Second streets on Wichita street and this was done one year before the location was made public. During these years, land was bought, that when sold, made enough money to keep the "wolf from the door," if men had been satisfied, but the blood was hot, the ambition was fired. The desire to obtain millions, and then came on the "boom;" then the deluge and then assets melted as "snow under an August sun." The result was insolvency, expatriation, misery, humiliation, degradation and death to many; proud homes were abandoned; ruin ate fortunes, thicker than fallen leaves, in Wichita, in each

succeeding year, were witnessed on every hand; noble, generous, liberal men walked the streets of Wichita in agony; women of culture and refinement surrendered the jewels of prosperity to buy bread of necessity and adversity. Wedding gifts were bartered, sold and pawned to pay rent. Costly furniture was sold at second-hand stores to raise money with which to get out of town; and, in one case, known to the writer, after the foreclosure of a mortgage, the owner one Sunday took a carpenter and plasterer to the house, then situated north of Third street and west of Waco, and removed therefrom two mantels, one oak and one mahogany, which were then put in a piano box and shipped to Kansas City, Mo., and sold for \$220, and the money was used to help establish a small business on Ninth street in Kansas City, that earned a portion of a livelihood for the family which in Wichita, in 1887, gave a reception that cost \$500, including a dance at Garfield Hall, in honor of a daughter. Ye, who things recall, put on your thinking caps and tell who this was.

The writer was not in at that dance, but was named as the consignor about that time for a piano which was shipped to Kansas City. There is in all of us, as a writer says, "a streak of yaller." It seems to me that there is a germ of toadyism, sycophancy, in most of us; a reverence for men who are (published) great; a bowing down before some shrine, either financial, social, spiritual or politic. The writer does not think he is filled with this toadyism quality above mankind, nor that he is a hero worshipper to any great extent. But whenever the subject of the building of Wichita comes up, there arises before his mind's eye the figure, acts and speech of Greiffenstein. The writer does not believe that Wichita has dealt generously or kindly with Greiffenstein or with his family. It is said that republics are ungrateful. Towns, also, forget the sacrifices made by pioneers. The following lines are applicable all over Kansas to the pioneers who builded not for self alone, but from ambitious pride to leave behind a mark more lasting than brass or marble, in wide streets and avenues:

"There is now a city, a thousand sweet homes,
On the land he plowed for his first sod-corn,
And he, a stranger, aimlessly roams
Where his wife died and his babes were born."

Douglas avenue is Greiffenstein's creation. It was his dream to behold it from the bridge to the Santa Fe depot lined with business, and the broadest, busiest, wealthiest thoroughfare in all Kansas. He was not bereft of hate, and wanted the north end humbled, but it was the hatred of rivalry—not personal feeling toward anybody. It was the feeling expressed by a gentleman of the English nation: "Individually, you fellows are all right, but collectively, I would like to see you all hung." With Greiffenstein it was simply a pride to build a town, defeat his rivals. He gloried in the building and the opening of the old toll bridge on the west end to free travel and in the location of the Santa Fe depot at the east end. He almost broke the back of the north end when he seduced the north-end capitalists to take stock in the toll bridge and thereby make their selfishness earn dividends for Douglas avenue. He was almost alone in his labors. The wealth and power of Wichita was against him, but it was extremely prudent wealth and unsacrificing power. In the beginning, Greiffenstein, with Jim Steele and N. A. English, were arrayed on the south side, with land, pluck and determination, but without money. On the north end were Woodman, Joe Allen, Al Thomas, Lank Moore, Minger, Wilder, Horner, Houck, McClees, Davidson and Fraker. James R. Meade, vice-president of the First National Bank, interested in North Main street, also owned land on Douglas avenue, so that his efforts were neutralized, and neither side got full benefit of his labors. In the street, Sol and Kohn were north-enders, but Kohn went with Greiffenstein. Eagle block was built and a dry goods store was built on the corner of Main and Douglas. The county offices were placed in Eagle Block, also the postoffice. The Wichita Savings Bank was located on Douglas avenue, and Douglas avenue commenced to win. The United States land office was the only thing left on Main street that drew business, except the First National Bank and Woodman's Bank. Greiffenstein went after the United States land office, and gave to the government free rent on the second floor of the building now occupied by Dr. Dorsey and the street railway company and Jackson's barber-shop. The land office was moved and Main street gave a howl. Then the postoffice was moved by malign influence to the Baltimore Hotel, then the Occidental, and a bridge was built across the big river at Central avenue. Main street rested from its labors, but Greiffenstein redoubled his efforts and went to work to remove the postmaster

and get a Douglas avenue man appointed in his stead and incidentally destroyed the Central avenue bridge by the election of Jim Steele as county commissioner.

Politics did not count much on the south side of town in these days. The question asked was whether or not a man was absolutely loyal to Douglas avenue. If so, then stand by him; and if not, then the Irish motto at the Donnybrook fair, "When you see a head, hit it," was adopted. N. A. English was considered some of a Democrat. Greiffenstein was counted and elected to the legislature as a Democrat; yet to establish and maintain the supremacy of Douglas avenue was more than politics; it was a religious faith, and its promises to its votaries were not of any spiritual condition or location after death, but it was victory over the north end and high prices for Douglas avenue lots when the battle was over.

The north end could have vanquished Greiffenstein in sixty days if it had loosened its purse-strings, but the men at the north end were "not built that way." They were built on prudent, cautious lines, and some of them were like the Methodist who boasted that he had belonged to the church for forty years and it had never cost him a cent. Many north-enders sympathized with and belonged to the north end, but would not pay subscriptions to build up the north end. As proof of this, Woodman at one time agreed to furnish the buildings where Tanner's book store now is on Main street and give the United States government free postoffice rent if the business men of Main street would pay him a portion of the value of the rental per annum. The building was furnished as Woodman agreed and the postoffice was placed therein by Colonel Murdock and for seasons the north-end business man paid rent, but Douglas avenue forged ahead. Main street lost some business and some prominent men and the rental was not paid to Woodman, and he then brought action for the balance due on rent, against the north-end men, who would not pay. And these north-enders defeated Woodman on the ground that it was illegal and contrary to public policy to agree to pay rent on a postoffice. This case went to the Supreme Court, and any one real curious to know who did not pay his rent for the postoffice while on North Main street can find out by consulting any lawyer in Wichita, as this case decided a principle which had not been decided very often.

This spirit dominated the north end from the beginning to the

death of Woodman. Woodman was a foe that was a good fighter, that spent money, but being practically abandoned by his people, he quit the fight. Al Thomas moved his grocery from the Occidental, now Baltimore, to the building on the corner of Market and Douglas. Allen & Tucker moved their place from Main street to the present location of the National Bank of Commerce. Hess & Getto moved from the corner of Main to Greenfield's. Deter & Kaiser moved their barber shop. Joe Allen moved from First and Main to Roy Allen's present location. George Mathews moved to the room now used by the Tornado Store. Charles Hill moved to the brick store now occupied by Stanford's drug store. Sam Houck moved from North Main to the present Houck hardware store. Tow Jewel moved to Tom Johnson's barber shop. Sluss, Hatton, Stanley, Wall, Balderson, Adams, English, all attorneys, moved to Douglas avenue. Allen, Fabrique, Furley and McAdams, all doctors, moved to Douglas avenue. During these years the First National Bank failed, and as a consequence thereof, the officers were indicted by the United States grand jury. They were technically guilty of violation of the national banking act and were found guilty, but were thereafter pardoned. They returned to Wichita, but their influence as men was over. No one particularly blamed them for the failure of the bank. The paper they had taken in became worthless by reason of the panic of 1873, caused by J. Cook and Henry Villard's failure. But when all these things came to pass, the backbone of Main street was broken. Its dream of being the business street of Wichita was over, and it is now considered on all sides that the dream of Main street as the business street of Wichita was over forever. In this connection it might be remarked that the first law office on Douglas avenue was Harris & Harris, over the street car office, at 193 West Douglas avenue, unless Bully Parsons is counted, who had no books and stayed in the card-room of Lew Dittman's saloon in the old building that has been replaced by the Royal on West Douglas avenue. Bully played "rounce" and the "devil" among the tailors with Greiffenstein, Colonel McClure, Jim Steele and James McCulloch and others if business was dull, and sometimes when business was not dull.

This may seem a digression from Wichita's history to a purely Douglas avenue write-up, but these days were so imbued in my mind, being a young and impressionable boy, that the Clan Douglas Avenue won me over and I was loyal to Douglas avenue unto

this day. The ends aimed at in these days were success and the glorification of Douglas avenue; hence my views of Wichita are full of Douglas avenue prejudice and bias. Greiffenstein loved his friends, and, though he was not a demonstrative man, he hated his enemies. Dr. Johnson said unless a man was a good hater, he was not worthy of confidence. Tested by this rule, Greiffenstein was worthy of absolute confidence, if he believed a man had purposely given him an insult or done him an injury Greiffenstein was a Socialist in Germany. He left college as a refugee in 1848, some time about the time that Charles Schurz and Joseph Pulitzer (New York "World" man) left the old country. Greiffenstein believed in liberty under law and also some liberty in defiance of law. His views of the prohibitory liquor law were so pronounced and are so well known that no comment is necessary. He came here on the prairie, established a trading post, lived in the open, helped to found the town, and the idea that a lot of puritanical pharisees should move in and control the town founded by him, and prohibit the use of beer, was as abhorrent to his feelings as a law, today, would be prohibiting the use of coffee and tobacco. Greiffenstein was not a snob nor an aristocrat. He was plain, simple and honest in all his dealings. I have no recollection of his ever wearing a collar or having his vest buttoned up. I do not say he never did, but I say that in daily association with him for years, I never observed that fact. He was not as old a man as he looked, with his gray hair and whiskers. He said to me one day, "Call me Bill; I do not like to be called Mister." Greiffenstein was Bill to his friends, always William to his wife, and he was Old Bill, "Sore-Eyed Bill," Dutch Bill and the "Douglas Avenue Dutchman" to the north end. He always rubbed and blinked his snow-blinded eyes, having been struck snow-blind in 1867 or 1868, wandering over the prairies, when he lost his bearings. He smoked cigars, but he loved his pipe, and with that pipe in his hand, held by its long stem, he smoked and the curling smoke ascended to the clouds, and after a time he gave an opinion. He was an oracle to his followers. He was Bismarck in the Douglas avenue fight; Jim Steele was Von Moltke. N. A. English was the crown prince and everything from the north line of Douglas avenue to the big river on the south were trained armies to do his bidding. He was an iron-gray town-building wizard. It may be that destiny located Wichita, and Colonel Murdock has often said, but

it was Greiffenstein that made Douglas avenue. There are those that belittle his life and deeds, but the fact remains that he built Eagle Block on the bare prairie and afterwards built Douglas Avenue Hotel, and that, except English and Steele, all the population of Wichita was north of Douglas avenue. The north end bought his lots and moved on the avenue, after a most determined effort to locate the depot somewhere north of Douglas avenue on Santa Fe avenue. Some near or distant day, Greiffenstein will have a monument in Wichita, and, in my judgment, of the pioneers of Wichita, he will be the only one, because he is the only man who has impressed his individuality upon the minds of Wichita. Others may have some claims, but they must continually prove them. Douglas avenue is Wichita, and Douglas avenue is Greiffenstein on both sides from Lawrence avenue to the bridge, except McLean's lumber yard and the Missouri Pacific depot.

Greiffenstein was not an uneducated man, as charged by many. He was unknown generally to the people of Wichita, as a man, citizen, reader, husband, neighbor, friend or parent. As a young man, I spent many pleasant days at the Greiffenstein homestead on South Water street. It was a home in the strictest sense of the word, and more luxuriantly furnished than any private house I had ever visited prior to 1874. Before this house was remodeled, the hall ran through the center. On the north side was the parlor and dining-room and library. In 1874 a Miss Sallie Barker, of Paris, Ill., came to Wichita and lived at Greiffenstein's and gave Mrs. Greiffenstein lessons on the piano. So far as I know, her piano, Mrs. Charles Hatton's and Mrs. W. D. Russell's were the only ones south of Douglas avenue. I did not visit much on the north end, except on North Water street. There was an organ on North Topeka avenue, above Third street, that did not have as much music in it as the one Emil Warner had on Main street, where Rohrabough's store is now situated, that used to grind out doleful sounds on Sunday evenings, as if it had a bad cold or consumption. Harry Arrowsmith, who was here in those days, mailed a receipt to the house once for a severe cough and recommended the organ have a tablespoonful every hour until relief was given. The boys thought this a good joke, but the house voted it an insult. But to return to the mutton: Greiffenstein was a great entertainer of his friends, and especially his "Injun" friends. He used to entertain them in the pasture running from English street to Kellogg on the west side of Water street. From

1874 until the Indians quit visiting Wichita, at least 200 Indians who came to Wichita from the territory were bivouacked in the pasture. One old buck was an acquaintance of Greiffenstein's of twenty-five years' standing, and he and his tribe put their tents in the pasture and killed and cooked beeves according to Indian gastronomy, without frills. Greiffenstein had outgrown his Indian customs, but his generosity led him to put up with his visitors as long as they called on him. In 1878, when Colonel Boon came to Wichita with his Indians that he was taking to the territory, Greiffenstein gave them a beef to kill and eat in the pasture, and about all Wichita called on them in the pasture. My judgement is that Greiffenstein's annual expenses were greater for those who lived upon, around and with him than his own family expenses. I remember on one Sunday afternoon a north-end man, who was off his beat and was down on South Water street, passed Greiffenstein's home and saw so many men on the front porch that he went to Woodman's house and told him that the Douglas avenue gang was all down at Greiffenstein's and some devilment was on foot. The fact was, this was the usual thing for the Douglas avenue men to be on the front porch, as Douglas avenue was always planning something to the detriment of Main street and the glorification of Douglas avenue.

Joe Allen's administration will always be known as the sewer administration, and it was marked by economy and prudence, so far as the mayor had any voice in the expenditure of money.

George W. Clement's Administration.—This administration marked the advent of the new blood, the retirement of the pioneer sentiment in city elections, and was the first administration after the boom was over and the bladder had burst. Clement realized that something must be done; that money must be paid on improvements to save our falling fortunes; that something permanent must be built, and though he was abused and cursed by some and supported by others, he resolutely pushed forward the asphalt pavement and the City Building, both of which are monuments to his zeal and courage.

John B. Carey's Administration.—This administration was one that had blame attached to it by reason of the insolvent condition. Contracts had been made to pave the streets and erect the City Building. The contract for the jasperite pavement was procured by doubtful means. Captain Carey set his shoulder to the wheel to run the city as he ran his business; to run the city

on as little money as law permitted, pay all honest bills, pay no money the law did not authorize, put his name to no ordinance that the law condemned, defeat the jasperite contract for pavement and pave Douglas avenue with asphalt. Carey failed of re-election by reason of the determination of what was known as the new blood or new element to be recognized in the city of Wichita, and, when "boiled down," the real fight on Carey was that the administration was too economical and would not wink at appropriations that the law would not authorize. Hence the new blood upheld Cox. Carey was an honest, fearless man, and his defeat was a rebuke to economy and the running of the city upon an open, legal basis, in which the business so far as the mayor was concerned was open to the world for inspection.

L. M. Cox's Administration.—This administration was the "funding administration." Money was due on maturing contracts, and the treasury was about empty. Money collected was used on current bills. The "sinking fund" was drawn against. Old bonds were paid by new ones, which were sold or exchanged. During this time the city lost money through Doran, county treasurer, so that the expenses were greater than receipts. This administration, by reason of its magnificent funding operations, came in for general cursing on all sides, before it was over, but the general condition of the city had much to do with this, as the August special session of congress, 1893, followed by the failure of two national banks, involving many depositors, the city felt feverish. Money was close and hard to get, and creditors pushed hard. The blame of being too free in the use of money attached to Cox's administration made the pendulum rebound and the demand was made for an economic administration by the leaders of all parties, and L. M. Cox, who defeated Carey, because he was too economic, was set aside for Finlay Ross, because Cox was too extravagant. Such are the vagaries of politics.

Finlay Ross' Administration.—This administration will be remembered as the "park administration." To Ross' efforts Wichita owns the finest city parks in the state. It will be as a monument, when he is wearing a robe and twanging a harp in the New Jerusalem. This administration was one that brought the old street car line to the final end, but the administration had nothing to do with getting the present street car company. This credit is due to Coler L. Sim. This administration commenced the fight on the M., K. & T. Telephone Company and granted the fran-

chise to the present Independent Company. Whether rightly or wrongly, Ross is accused of having had in mind the formation of the Independent Company when he commenced the fight on the old company. Ross' friends do not believe that he was in any wise connected with the new company until after his time as mayor of the city had expired. Whether it is an error or not, there is in Wichita amongst all classes a deep-seated opinion that Finlay Ross, as mayor, honestly, earnestly and faithfully performed his duty and that he demanded a system of bookkeeping to be inaugurated so that the city could know what it owned and when it was due. It has been said that up to the time when Ross became connected with the city administration that the books in the city office were not kept in such a way that the city knew either what its bills payable or bills receivable were.

Ben McLean's Administration. There is now on and is not yet history, and hence will not be written about, except incidentally, to say that the west side is being cared for as it never has been helped before. Every good citizen is aware that the west side has the mayor, as heretofore it has been neglected. The west side surrendered its rights as an independent town and sank into the insignificant condition of being a ward. The building of a double bridge on the river, carrying gas and water pipes and having good foot walks across, with double driveway, will bring the west side close to Douglas avenue, and the present administration is recommended to do two things before it closes and goes into history: First—Organize a Historical Society. Second—Build a double bridge on Douglas avenue, so that the future collector of events, when he proceeds to gather his facts, will embalm in the history of Wichita that the McLean administration paved the west side, built the double bridge and organized a Historical Society.

The Boom Administration.—Ben Aldrich was mayor of the city from 1885 to 1887. This might be properly named the "boom administration." During this administration was the awakening of the people of Wichita to the fact that Wichita was being noticed by people from the Eastern states, by men with money; by simon-pure, unadulterated, square-sawed oak, beeswax-rubbed and unpolitical speculators; the man who hunts a place where values are rising and who keeps tab on every place where money can be quickly made and harvested. The population of Wichita from 1885 to 1887 increased about 20,000 people. The west side, also

called Delano or West Wichita, had a population sufficient to organize as a city of the second class. At that time William Pitt Campbell, also known as "Tiger Bill," was the city attorney. The things accomplished under this administration, which were pure city acts, were the building of the Rock Island Railway; the Midland Railroad (now part of the Frisco system); the Wichita & Colorado Railroad to Hutchinson; the extension of the Missouri Pacific Railroad from Anthony to Kiowa, to get this territory of a tributary to Wichita, and also a road called the Leroy & Western, which was built from Mulvane, through the southern part of the county, west to Clearwater, Norwich and thereafter to Coldwater, all for the purpose of bringing this territory into Wichita as tributary territory.

West Wichita was induced to become part of the city, and Robert Lawrence was one of the prime movers in this undertaking. Wichita at this time passed from a second to a first class city. This was purely the work of William Pitt Campbell, as 90 per cent of the citizens of Wichita did not desire that Wichita should go from a second to a first class city, because of the additional burdens and expenses, which were necessarily incident to such a change. During this time the United States Government Building was got under way. Incidentally, this cost the men that located the buildings \$1,200 for the location. The Burton Car Works were got under way. During this time these were commenced, but nothing was done until after Allen's administration had closed; also the county court house was commenced. From 1885 to 1887 were record-breakers, world-defeaters. Millions were spent in public and private and quasi-public improvements. Thousands of acres of land were added to the taxable values of the city. The Valley Center motor line, that is now but a legend, was built and operated at the cost of thousands in the building and a loss of thousands at the final end. During this time George Strong built his two lines of street railway, one of which ran up Fourth avenue and is now a myth; the other which went up Water street north to Fifteenth street and east to Fairmount College. This was an electric line and the lots cost over \$100,000, and some of the bonds are still afloat. During this time J. O. Davidson got his first electric railroad, called the Riverside line, up Market street, west on Pine street to across the little river to Riverside addition. Historically speaking, this was the first operated electric railroad in the United States.

Henry Schweiter built his line down Emporia avenue and out to Linwood Park. The West Douglas Avenue Street Railway Company was organized by promoters of the Wichita & Colorado Railroad, and Capt. F. G. Smyth, who was one of the prime movers in what was called Junction Town Company addition. The old street car company had agreed with the Junction Town Company addition that as soon as their addition was platted it would extend its line from the corner of Main and Douglas avenue across the bridge and at least one mile in length, but it took its time to perform its promise. The west side was demanding that the street car line be extended across the river. One Sunday morning Captain Smyth called a meeting of the Junction Town Company and stated that it was absolutely necessary for the moving of the Junction Town Company property on the west side that this street car line be built. Thereupon a charter was drawn up. On Monday morning it was forwarded to Topeka. A wire was sent from Topeka that the charter had been filed and a copy mailed to Wichita. On that afternoon the city council were seen, a special meeting of the council was held, the franchise was granted to the West Douglas Avenue Street Car Company, and on the morning thereafter Captain Smyth left for St. Louis to buy two cars to put on this line. The most of the work was kept secret. The first that the old street car company knew of the progress made by the West Douglas avenue company was when its officers beheld the street cars sitting on the Frisco sidetrack, ready to be unloaded. In twenty-four hours the old street car company had gathered its company and called a meeting of the Junction Town Company with its managers and assumed the obligations of the West Douglas avenue company, paid for the new cars and track and commenced to operate the road as soon as it could be gotten under way.

It is estimated that the loss in the building of the street cars in the city of Wichita, from the organization of the first street car line in 1883 down to the time that the present street railway system purchased the electric line three years ago, amounts to about \$700,000. In this connection, it might be said that the first street car line was organized in 1883, by Col. John W. Hartzell, then of Topeka, Kan.; J. M. Steele, Kos Harris, L. D. Skinner and Frank Hartzell. This street railway line ran from the Santa Fe depot up to Main street on Douglas avenue, and thence north to Oak street, now Murdock avenue, and thence east to Fifth avenue, and thence

north to the old Santa Fe depot. The present city street railway rails weigh over 100 pounds to the yard. The Wichita street railway, when built in 1883, used iron, which weighed but fourteen pounds to the yard, so that one can readily see the difference between building a mule car line and an electric car line. The Wichita Street Railway Company, organized in 1883, issued its bonds to the amount of \$14,000, payable to S. W. Wheelock, of Rock Island, Ill., and after this line was built, cars purchased as well as mules, the company had about \$8,000 in addition to the \$14,000 furnished by Wheelock. The earnings the first year were 127 per cent on the amount of capital stock. Subsequently this road was sold to Colonel Powell for \$25,000, and thereafter Colonel Powell sold one-half interest for \$25,000, and thereafter he sold his other half interest for \$100,000, which was paid in notes and mortgages taken by him in part payment, and he lost over \$35,000. During this time the Garfield University was started by the Christian church; also Fairmount College, the German Reform College, now used by the Catholic church, south of the golf grounds. During this time John Bright's University was started. There is perhaps one person in five hundred in the city of Wichita who remembers where John Bright's University was located. This administration was the one that gave to Wichita the celebrity and it is a period of high values. The apex of its prosperity and this administration passed into history before Wichita realized that it was insolvent or dreamed of what would follow.

As a matter of fact, the city of Wichita was in the condition of a man who goes home and finds some of his family is ill. While he is shocked to some extent, the member of the family lies sick for one month, two months or three months. The doctor tells them that there is doubt of the recovery of the sick person. By the time the person dies, the family have become accustomed and reconciled to the condition, and the death is not as much of a shock as the original information of the illness. Where a person goes home and finds a member of the family has been suddenly killed, the shock is terrible. Wichita was a sick man. It did not know whether it would recover or not as the days, months and years went by, and had become reconciled to the condition. If on some morning in 1888 all of the misery, desolation and bankruptcy had suddenly come to Wichita in the night, the shock would have been so great that the undertakers of this city would have had to telegraph to Eastern coffin manufacturers to order

boxes with which to bury the suicides. My judgment is that all the strychnine, arsenic, prussic acid and laudanum in the town would have been used in forty-eight hours if one-half of the misery and desolation had struck us suddenly instead of being long drawn out.

During this time Linwood Park was laid out, which was the first real park of the city. The Christmas of 1886 was the wildest and noisiest day in speculation that Wichita ever beheld. Real estate trades that amounted to millions of dollars were made in that day. There was indebtedness enough created on that day to bankrupt at least fifty families. On that day the writer was a member of a syndicate and put up his portion of \$30,000 in a piece of property which was thereafter carried ten years and then sold for about the same amount of taxes that had been paid out on the property from 1886 to the day of the sale, a period of about ten years. On that day every hotel of the city was full and running over. Business men had abandoned their stores and became real estate speculators. Stocks of goods were sold and boxed up and the stores were rented for business houses. One business house on North Main street rented for \$125 per month, was used as a real estate office, and sublet for desk room, so that the original lessee of the room received a profit of \$250 per month for the room.

During this time the Rock Island Railway made a contract with a local syndicate to locate its depot at its present site and the ground, which in 1885 was worth perhaps \$20,000, was bulled until the owner saw fit to ask \$60,000 for 100 feet of ground facing on Douglas avenue. The railroad company was determined not to pay this money or to make this location. It was agreed between this syndicate and the railroad company that the company would pay \$20,000 toward the purchase of this ground and the syndicate should pay the other \$40,000, and the railroad company was to give the syndicate company reasonable time in which to purchase the ground with which to requite itself of the amount paid for the depot site. This syndicate made its first purchase of the ground now known as Rock Island addition, which runs from the Rock Island depot across Rock Island avenue to the Frisco depot, east and west, and runs to Division street, north and south, being located 140 feet south of Douglas avenue. Fifty thousand dollars' worth of other property was purchased on Douglas avenue, and Rock Island addition was laid out. Rock Island avenue was

thrown open, but to get to Douglas avenue with Rock Island avenue it was necessary to purchase two lots on Douglas avenue and dedicate them for a street, and these two lots were purchased for \$12,000, and afterwards dedicated to the public for a street. The syndicate that purchased this addition and furnished the depot to the Rock Island Company, made a profit over and above expenditures which amounted in the aggregate to over \$60,000 or \$74,000 in six months from the date that the addition was platted. So in truth and in fact, Ben Aldrich's administration should be put down in history as the "boom administration."

CHAPTER XXII.

REMINISCENCES OF A BRIEFLESS BARRISTER.

By

KOS HARRIS.

When one falls into a reminiscent mood, 'tis said to be decay—dry-rot—softening of that part of man which passeth for brain; yet Daniel Webster, the tutelary god of American authors and embryonic constitutional expounders, hath said: “ 'Tis pleasant to indulge in recollections of the past”; hence I will indulge in recollections. I state, as a preface, that I belong to the prehistoric, second-grasshopper period of Kansas. My information is that there was a grasshopper raid during the war, ere what we call civilization penetrated southwestern Kansas. I may say that during the year A. D. 1874 I did not live, but simply existed. My office was nine feet wide, twenty feet long and eleven feet high. Could I have had the arrangement of the square feet of the office, I might have shaped it better, but as I did not pay any rent, or any part thereof, during the year 1874 I had a delicacy about “kicking” on the inconvenience of the office, or the leaky condition of the roof. I only remember one rain that year, so that I was not damaged. I had hoped for a soaking rain that might bring in a bill for damages on my library, but was deprived of the privilege through the benign goodness of Him who watcheth over the fledglings.

Having nothing to do, in A. D. 1874, I grew dissipated, and regularly took one glass of beer per diem at a saloon called the “Texas Saloon,” usually the resort of cowboys and Mexicans. This saloon was the last resort on the west end of the street, and there, unnoticed, unmolested and friendless, I went to get one glass of beer to submerge my sorrows and engulf my grief. This saloon was under the guardianship of a descendant of some alleged old Spanish hidalgo whom I will call Don Carlos Juandaro. I could not for my life help admiring, yet hating and despising,

Don Carlos. The first time I beheld him was in March, 1874, standing behind the bar with a revolver pointed at a desperado and influencing him to pay one dollar for thirty cents' worth of the meanest beer a mortal ever tasted. He was a beau ideal Spanish guerrillero. I usually passed by if he was at the bar, being in no condition to pay over five cents for five cents' worth of beer, and did not intend to take any chances on it. The long, hot and windy summer days came and found me in my dingy office, contemplating cold, clammy, worm-eaten physical dissolution, temporal annihilation, permanent absence from earth, commonly known and denominated as death. Of course there is no such thing as death, but as common people will understand me better when I say death, I will therefore call it "death." I did not feel too young to die, to be dissolved, annihilated, permanently removed, but I felt too bad to die; therefore I existed, not from love of life, but from fear of hell. Had I been better fitted to be a male angel, no doubt this would never have been written; no doubt the hand that writes this would long since have been part and parcel of a compost heap o'er which little buttercups, wild cacti and bluestem would long since have budded, blossomed, withered, decayed and dissolved. Perhaps the cottonwood would, ere this, have "sent his roots abroad to pierce my mould, etc." Who can say that the undertakers of Wichita would not have had a quarrel over my fleshless skeleton; that some future Hamlet might not have used my skull as an apostrophe on the fleeting condition of mankind in general and me in particular? Yet all this has been happily avoided by my cowardice or want of spirituality. Save the footfall of a creditor, no sound reverberated in my stairway, nor disturbed the quietude of my lonely den, save my own, till one day a step on the stairway gave me palpitation of the heart, vertigo, sent shooting pains through my bloodless frame, as if stung simultaneously by a thousand nettles, each nettle provided with as many prongs as the countless tongues of the Mohammedan chanticleer—viz., male cock—of the Koran, with which all mankind is familiar. To paraphrase Burns' lines, I could say at that time "The fear of a creditor's whip is hell." All boomers, to the manner born, will echo this sentiment.

At that time there was an old attorney here, formerly a judge advocate in the army, "lofty and sour to those who loved him not, but to those that sought him, sweet as summer." The legal kids respected him for his legal knowledge, yet feared him for his

acid accent and his seeming roughness and brutality in his practice. He will be known as "Surly Bill." In September, 1874, after the "grasshopper" had swept the verdure of the Arkansas valley, even as Bismarck's "iron dice of destiny" had mowed the vineyards of France, I was in my office, aimlessly "sitting like Patience on a monument," not, however, "smiling at grief," and heard a sound on the stairway. Every creditor had previously paid his respects, and I was wondering if one of these fiends in human garb was returning to drive me mad (the word mad is herein used in the idiotic, insane sense, not as denoting anger), when Surely Bill came in. He had ne'er before opened my door, nor walked across the floor, and I expected naught save a dun, a suit, a judgment, disgrace, humiliation, commercial dishonor and insolvency. Bill seated himself—without invitation, by the way—and remarked: "I suppose you have not seen a dollar for so long that you can't tell the difference between a good or bad one." This was humiliating, yet almost true; insulting, yet I bore it all—in fact, separated as I am from that day by years, I may be pardoned for saying that it was Christian meekness that nerved me to bear it without at once whipping him soundly, even though at that date the contrast as to size was about the same between Bill and myself as between Judge Reed and Judge Wall.

Bill, mollified by my forbearance, continued, after a pause: "I have a little case, a proceeding in aid of execution. I wish to have some depositions taken, and I will have you appointed to take testimony if you desire. I want to examine the debtor as to a conveyance made to his father-in-law." Visions of wealth came before me, and I eagerly assented and thanked the judge. He left, had the appointment made, gave me the names of witnesses; I made out the subpœna and gave it to Mike Meagher to serve. (Mike was afterward killed at Caldwell, Kan., by some cowboys.) Mike served the subpœna and returned it to me with a "grin." This nettled me, as I supposed I had made "some break" that he was "on to," and I asked him what he meant. "Old Bill is going to let you try this, is he?" said he. "Yes; why?" I replied. "Oh, nothing—only two or three of the boys have commenced on the case and quit. Juandaro won't answer, and you'll have to send him to jail. I don't think he is dangerous, but I'll come round when you examine him." I now realized that I had been caught because I was green, obscure, and had never heard of this matter, which no doubt all the other attorneys had full

knowledge of. My proud, imperious spirit sank. The next two days were simply a prelude of the everlasting Calvinistic torment to come to man after death—i. e., dissolution—and before the day of trial arrived I contemplated leaving town, skipping; yet had no money to skip with. I dreamed of being shot, of dying. I beheld my lifeless form in a coffin, pale, sad, melancholy even in death, and yet how relieved I was I had died, but not by my own hand! I thought the agony of the interval between the date of serving that accursed subpoena and my death had so purified my unclean and aching heart that my poverty, utter loneliness and abject wretchedness would appeal to the good God, that he would permit me to at least enter the back yard of paradise; perhaps grant me admission to the stables of the King of Hosts and give me a pass to the hay mow for a bed. Time, that is so fleeting; time, that matures a five-year note in one year; time, that has buried the archives of centuries; time, that has obliterated the glorious records of deeds of generations of Turiennes, Charles XII's, Cromwells, Hannibals, Marlboroughs, Napoleons, Grants, Shermans and Von Moltkes; time, that in its hurried flight reckons not days, years or decades, was for me too slow. It dragged along at a crippled snail's pace; hours were as days, and a day was a month. I was in a fever heat. I wanted to examine Juandaro, hear him refuse to answer, commit him to jail, be shot, die and be dead, dead forever and forever. In fact, none save God knew "the fatness of my full-rounded misery."

All things temporal end, however. The day, the hour, came; and as I sat awaiting, a heavy foot was heard on the stairway, bounding up two steps at a time, and in an instant Carlos Juandaro stood before me, and then for the first time I knew who was the witness. As I remember him, he was a man of about five feet eight inches high, well knit, an iron-built frame, swarthy complexion; long, snaky black hair hung round his shoulders; eyes as black as a raven and piercing and relentless as a rattlesnake's; a frown on his brow as ominous as inky sky in summer; a mustache heavy and long as the "jack of spades" of the American army; a mouth that half opened like that of a snarling cur, disclosing two rows of teeth white as pearl. He wore a white sombrero, with wide rim and tall crown covered over and over with silvery binding and rosettes, that shone like a helmet in the sun; a pale-blue shirt and no coat or vest; purple velvet trousers tucked in a pair of high-heeled boots, set in yellow stars. Round

his waist was a belt filled with cartridges and over this a heavy crimson-red sash which, wound round and round his body, formed a fold, the rich tassels hanging down at each side, and peeping from the folds of this belt appeared the ivory handle of a revolver. He was the ideal creation of an artist, a poem on legs—his tout ensemble astonished, fascinated and bewildered me. Scientists say snakes don't charm animals, but that animals become entranced and charm themselves by being unable to remove their eyes from the snake after once gazing on it. In the same way I was hypnotized, became dumb. My heart ceased, almost, to beat. I was tired, weary, sleepy, limp, when I was suddenly roused from my lethargy by a loud voice saying, "What in —— do you want with me, —— you ——?"

I rallied, grew talkative, explained as best I could my position in the matter, begged his pardon, expressed the hope that it was all right, and thus in the presence of impending death was as cheerful as I fancy "Praise God Barebones" (Cromwell's assistant) would have been at a dance at the time when the Long Parliament was prorogued, and the only real amusement a Roundhead had was singing psalms through his nose as a vocation and spearing Cavaliers for recreation. That interview, however, came to an end, and I was permitted to live. The day of trial arrived. The judge; G. H. E., Carlos Juandaro's attorney, and Juandaro entered the court room. The preliminaries were soon over; the witness was sworn; the first question asked and answered about as follows: "State your name, age, residence, occupation." "It's none of your business as to my age, residence or occupation, and as to my name, unless I am the man for whom the subpoena was issued, I have no business here. If I am the man, you know my name." The next few questions were answered because they did not tend to elicit any information. At last a question was put by Surly Bill, and to the end of it, by way of parenthesis, he added: "You can now perjure yourself if you want to, or surprise me by telling the truth." This addenda to the question produced a clap of Mexican thunder in a cloudless Kansas sky. Juandaro raged and swore and foamed at the mouth like a mad dog. He almost burst a blood vessel and his gall bladder. He swelled up in the neck like the picture of a cobra filling his hood preparatory to ejecting the poison gathering under his tongue, and his eyes were as changeable as a tiger-eye jewel. When he paused to recover breath, Surly Bill remarked in a dry voice that he was a born

actor and ought to be on the stage instead of selling whisky and conveying away his land to defraud his creditors. This brought on another scene. During the oration Juandaro's right hand nervously clutched the ivory handle of his revolver, and when he sat down it was the general understanding that he was not going to answer that question! The tableau was stirring—four men sitting looking at each other—deep breathing, long silence.

Surly Bill at length said: "Mr. Notary, do your duty." Juandaro's attorney here mildly remarked that he did not suppose the notary would take the responsibility and perhaps get sued for false imprisonment, etc. Surly Bill arose, even as Ulysses arose in the old poem:

As if in thought profound,
His modest eye fixed upon the ground,

and, after an expressive pause, proceeded:

"The witness is now at the end of his rope. Justice will be done. The law will be vindicated, the culprit punished. Others have permitted this witness to defy the strong arm of the law, but, thank God, we have now a notary who in his duty is as fearless as the lion, bold to do right, timid only in wrong. I know that I am not, in the discharge of my duty to my client, appealing to a coward, but to one who, knowing the law, is courageous enough to enforce it. Mr. Notary, I demand an answer to my question, or a commitment." During the address I was the personification of abject misery. I had a chill. I grew dizzy, blind—in fact, I felt as the poet when he said:

What a tide of woes came rushing
O'er my wretched soul at once.

Surly Bill, seeing my condition, sat down at my table, wrote out the commitment, showed me where to sign it, put the seal on it, went to the window, called Mike Meagher, and in five minutes Juandaro was in the hall on his back, senseless. I went home, went to bed, stayed there three days. On the evening of the third day, Surly Bill came down to inquire after my health, gave me five dollars, thanked me for my courage, and stated that Juandaro had offered fifty cents on the dollar as a compromise the morning after his commitment, and that the matter was settled.

Juandaro left Kansas and is now in Arizona; his attorney is in Kansas City, Surly Bill in Ohio, Juandaro's father-in-law in Wichita. The real estate which was in controversy is at present covered with a brick building on East Douglas avenue. "Proceedings in aid of execution" always bring to mind my first depositions in Kansas, with Juandaro as a witness.

"Amaranthine that day in my memory lives."

"GRASSHOPPER."

February 26, 1892.

CHAPTER XXIII.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

By

KOS HARRIS.

DECEMBER 9, 1903.

Kos V. Harris, who delivered the formal address of welcome at the convention of implement dealers late yesterday afternoon, electrified his auditors. His language was eloquent, and the address was pronounced one of the best efforts, oratorically and otherwise, heard at any similar gathering in Wichita.

Following is the address in full:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: The committee having charge of this gathering have selected me to deliver an address of welcome to you. I was selected because I was entirely ignorant, and therefore presumed to be absolutely without bias and prejudice on this subject. On behalf of the local committee, the local implement dealers of Wichita and the city of Wichita, I bid you welcome. Glancing backward almost thirty years, when Smith & Keating and F. G. Smyth & Sons, at the corners of Lawrence and Douglas avenues, were engaged in the implement business, with one railroad in this city; when looking westward, millions of cultivatable lands were cattle pastures, and from the state line to the Red river, other cultivatable millions were cut off from trade, commerce and cultivation by an arbitrary edict and law, and from then down until the present day of this harmonious gathering, in generous rivalry of men engaged in the sale of agricultural implements, must be to every man here a revelation, a surprise and a continual source of wonder.

To him who comes here for the first time today, the past, as related by the pioneer, almost staggers belief. To him who has witnessed it all, the past is almost an Arabian Nights tale; the present a glorious triumph; the future full of rich promises. To

those who have witnessed the A, B, C of agricultural civilization in the Arkansas valley and the adjacent and tributary territory; to those who have beheld the sun of hope arise, watched it in the meridian and beheld it decline in the days of financial distress and adversity, this is a joyous occasion, and they may exclaim as the Psalmist: "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage!" A meeting of men engaged in business rivalry, in meetings of this character, is not only a liberal education, but builds up confidence in, respect and esteem for each other. Practically speaking, it is a new era in trade and commerce when men engaged in the same lines meet together to discuss their business and mutually encourage each other. Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. Competition, notwithstanding trusts and combines, still exists among dealers and manufacturers. From east to west, north to south, men are employed in the empire of agricultural machinery for their industry, honesty, fidelity and alertness; and in no business throughout the West is there any greater number of capable men employed than in the business controlled and directed by this meeting. In fact, a man who is engaged in your business, and sails his boat successfully, can engage in any business—except medicine and the ministry.

The banker, the lawyer and the newspaper man are your debtors. Your calling has to do with all of them, and your opinion given from time to time has in many cases become the deliberate judgment on values, results and the public pulse, by men engaged in other lines. The grain and stock markets of the world are measurably affected year by year by the reports to your houses from your respective agencies. Your business comprehends grain and stock to such an extent that you are the barometer of the condition of the crops of the country from year to year.

But, gentlemen, notwithstanding the past and the present, I beg to state that Wichita has for thirty years planned for gatherings of this sort. Millions in bonds have been voted and subsidies given in the Arkansas valley, trusting to time to redeem the promises made to the voter and the giver. The land was here, the men were here; and they believed as firmly as they believed in existence that this valley was not only the granary of Kansas, but that this Southwestern territory was the superior in yielding power of equal acreage anywhere in the known world. The val-

ley of the Nile has been proclaimed for centuries as the greatest field of production; and yet the valley of the Arkansas, the Nile of America, contains a yielding power in wheat compared to which no other section of the world is equal, and the figures of which, when sent abroad, are not only not believed, but are discredited. Our people believed that to everybody—and especially the agricultural implement dealers—this valley would prove to be the gold-winner and world-beater of the West. Kansas and Oklahoma business men have given great hostages to fortune, and their faith in the future; and the lines that you represent have taken greater risks, perhaps, on the future development of this country than any other business.

With no disparagement to Oklahoma, its wondrous growth, its glorious future, Wichita has faith in the broad and fertile acres that lie at its gates, in its banking facilities, its railway connections, to finally bring to it the reward to which its people are entitled for planting, nursing and bringing to young and ambitious manhood this commercial infant, that has demonstrated its right to lift its head and be recognized as one of the great commercial factors west of Kansas City, south of Omaha, east of Denver, and north of Texas. The first great gathering of men of national renown to push the claims of Oklahoma was in Wichita. At that meeting General Weaver, Congressmen Springer and Manser, Colonel Crocker, and men from other states were present, and at that time Wichita placed herself in the front rank and worked for the success of that meeting, as much as if she was trying to build a railroad or establish a packing house. And when that great meeting adjourned, the rustling "blue stem" of Oklahoma breathed a song which was borne by eager, willing winds along to the oleanders of Texas, the holly of Arkansas, the long-leaved pine of Georgia, the magnolia of Florida, the palmetto of South Carolina, the eraggy pines and singing rills of Colorado's snow-capped hills to the northern lakes, which song was divined and caught up by the homeless and landless yet ambitious manhood of our common country, and fifty thousand tongues were singing:

"Come along, come along, make no delay;
Come from every nation, come from every way;
Come along, come along, don't you be alarmed—
Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a farm."

Never since the date that Adam and Eve "homesteaded" the Garden of Eden was a fairer prospect ever given over to civilization. History fails to record another such a peaceful, cosmopolitan settlement that transformed a melancholy and voiceless plain into a human beehive, containing all the necessary elements in population, intellect and wealth which go to make up a state between the rising and setting of the sun. And at nightfall of that eventful day, long, long to be remembered and recalled in story and legend and song, when the sun, like a ball of fire, sank into the Pacific sea, "the foxes had holes, the birds of the air had nests, but the Son of Man had not where to lay his head."

"The night winds swept across the plain—the voiceless plain no more to be;

The glowing sun arose again, and smiled upon a human sea."

The sun looked down and smiled upon a happy, ambitious people; a future commonwealth that provoked the envy and greed of speculators and the admiration of statesmen; a new-born civilization, proving that Americans (born or naturalized) were capable of government twenty-four hours after residence; looked down upon the united "blue and gray," and consecrated the marriage of Kansas and Texas, Nebraska and Tennessee, Indiana and Arkansas. Men of Oklahoma, the homogeneous and happy, peaceful and prosperous home of the warring enemies that met at Gettysburg and Donelson, Appomattox and Fredericks town, Atlanta and Chancellorsville—

"You have turned your swords into plowshares,
Your spears into pruning-hooks."

Wichita welcomes you as the keystone of the government arch, a jewel fit to be set in the constellation of stars that the rising sun gilds with its morning rays and kisses with its last beam ere it sinks to rest. Your settlement and progress is a standing criticism to all prior efforts at civilization, and but for the fact that the day of the pioneer is over, would be a lesson to mankind forever.

Gentlemen, in the unconfined, boundless and ambitious West,

where men are free, tireless, and labor with zest, the agricultural implement business is not only prosperous, but it is the best.

“It is your refuge and your hope;
It is the shadow of a rock in a weary land.”

The pioneer is gone forever:

“Never again; no, never again
Shall the eye of the traveler behold
The naked, boundless, treeless plain,
The charming vision of the pioneer behold.
“Now teeming fields of golden grain
By the eye of the tourist is seen,
Where once a free, unpeopled plain,
Now appears a waving sea of green.”

Gentlemen, this agricultural empire belongs to you and your “children even unto the third and fourth generations.” All that we ask is that you treat our farmers fairly and put the earload lots at Wichita, to be “located” out and distributed throughout Kansas and Oklahoma from Wichita, instead of Eastern points. If we furnish millions in trade, the freight rates should be as low as possible, and from a basing point as near the grain as it can be put, and in our judgment this should be at Wichita, until another star arises in the firmament, makes its way to the zenith and demands recognition—some bright star, yet unknown and undiscovered by the town-building astronomer, that may yet rival us in our boasted possessions and contest with us the right to wear the belt of commercial supremacy in the great Southwest. The development of these lands and the opening up of that territory gave to the agricultural implement dealers a domain almost equal to Kansas, the profits from which will last until the end of time; and these profits, present and prospective, should entitle this people to have your goods in bulk placed as near the point of demand as it is possible to do. Wichita, situate 225 miles from Kansas City, 600 miles from Denver and 150 miles to Oklahoma City, with its radiating railroad lines, welcomes you here as heirs and joint heirs of the prosperity that will surely flow to this valley before another decade shall pass away. God Almighty seldom sends a man into the world with an ambition to accom-

plish something, without endowing him with the capacity to perform his work, and we of the Arkansas valley feel that we have both the ambition and capacity to be the commercial center for this Southwestern territory.

To the manufacturer, we say come among us; be one of us and reap the harvest to come. Your houses can fix the rates on tonnage to Wichita if you so will it. A joint demand from the immense tonnage represented by you will make the basing line 225 miles southwest of Kansas City. Kansas City was made the "basing point" when its population and railroads were less than Wichita's. Less than one-half a million Kansans made Kansas City, and the million of people now directly tributary to Wichita will make it. Your acts may retard, may hinder and delay the fruition of the hopes of the Arkansas valley, but as sure as there is a God in Israel, the day will come when every manufacturer in your lines will be here with a place for his goods, or regret that he had not faith in this locality, situation and fertile lands to get in the Arkansas valley team and "work in lead, swing or wheel," to people the Arkansas valley and the adjacent lands and double and triple the "output" per annum.

But, gentlemen, to your business, "this royal infant, yet in its cradle, contains a thousand blessings, which time shall bring to ripeness." The wild Indian rose at the south, and the carpet of grass to the west, has but been scratched by the plow or touched by the reaper and the traction engine. You, gentlemen, can push or retard the growth of your own business. You can settle this great field and enjoy your profits, or watch the gradual growth from year to year. You can be pioneers of agriculture instead of followers, "trolleys in place of trailers; engine, not caboose." Your advertisement of southwestern Kansas and Oklahoma will send to those fields thousands of farmers, to whom your goods will go, and, in building up the prairie, enrich yourselves.

The men of Wichita have been thirty years building up this city—building it up in the faith that the time would come when it would be the depot of not only your wares, but the headquarters and "basing point of Southwestern trade and commerce; building it up to welcome you—to welcome you today."

We feel "that we are citizens of no mean city," and that we are especially and distinctively the city of Kansas, dependent on

none and independent of all. We have made a city fit to entertain any gathering, and, from our beginning, the stranger has been made welcome at our gates.

Charlemagne, at Hamburg, about A. D. 800, on the bank of the Elbe, made it a free city; "Dutch Bill" the Great established and intended it as a free city. To this free city we welcome you and invite you to bring your wares and enable us to make it bigger, to the end that your trade will help to put millions of souls in Oklahoma and Kansas to buy your implements and move the depots of machinery to a basing point west of Missouri, to break its bulk and be distributed throughout southwest Kansas and Oklahoma. You are here to extend your trade and increase your profits; your ambition is to excel your rivals. This meeting will result in good to all and broaden your views.

Your attention is called to the fact that when your eyes look to the west beyond Kansas City, there is but one place upon which they can tranquilly rest as a depot for your goods, and that place is Wichita. It has cost millions to make this town and develop this country, but some near or distant day Wichita will be to southwestern Kansas and Oklahoma what Kansas City was to Kansas in an early day; and when that day arrives, he who waits to see the outcome will regret that he did not get on the ground floor. In every honest calling there's a prize for him who stands his ground; and for every man who regulates his conduct by the golden rule, there is a crown which will make his declining days contented, peaceful and happy, and will be the most glorious legacy he can bequeath to his children.

All Wichita rejoices at this meeting and bids you welcome, and if good will and good wishes have any weight, we hope you will continue to contend for the prize in generous rivalry, a free fight and a fair open field, and when the end comes, that you may receive a prize as your reward, and a crown as an heritage to leave to your children. He who fails, can read the story of his failure and his rival's success in sorrowful retrospection. From unlucky men, as from a pestilence, people fly, while success is borne on eagle's wings from sky to sky.

"All hail to him who wins the prize!

This world has cried for a thousand years;
But for him who fails, who fails and dies,
There's naught but pitiful tears."

Go on in your labor, gentlemen; adopt the "Old Wichita Board of Trade" motto: "Harmony, Unity, Strength, Success." Welcome, thrice welcome to the "Hamburg to Kansas," and, hoping that your meeting may be successful; that you may leave us with regret, after passing a resolution that you and your descendants and successors will meet in Wichita annually, until time shall be no more, I bid you glad welcome, and I bid you adieu.

CHAPTER XXIV.

OLD NEW YORK BLOCK—SCHWEITER CORNER—A NARRATIVE OF EARLY WICHITA.

By

KOS HARRIS.

Somewhat is saved from the tooth of time by the recordation of fragmentary, confused facts, which afterward are sorted by a ragman into some sort of order, strung together like buttons on a memory-string and denominated "history." Some are better sorters and stringers than others. That which follows is one memory-string concerning the old Schweiter corner and things brought to mind in connection therewith.

"One generation passeth away and another one cometh."

THE SCHWEITER CORNER.

A man whom I have known for over a generation said to me: "Why don't you write up the Schweiter corner as it was in the days of long ago?" This suggestion moved me to put a saddle on the cow pony, sit firm in the saddle, give the pony its head and a free rein, and ride wherever he goes, nipping at blue-stem and buffalo grass, as he moves ambling and shambling along. In the former generation, when "grandads" were few and far between; when white swiss, blue ribbons and pigtails on youthful femininity were rare; when there were three or four boys to every girl in town and you could count the girls; when old Eagle Block (commonly called old Eagle Hall), where the Boston Store now stands, was a more magnificent and grander "publick" edifice than the new Coliseum, Hippodrome, Flavian Amphitheater or Architectural Fabrication or Forum, now in its genesis, at the corner of Water and English streets, or any other future building, will be to Wichita, the "Old New York corner," now yclept "Schweiter corner," was the center of business, and drew the

loafers around it even as a barrel of molasses draweth flies or a magnet draws iron filings.

The golden days, whereof I write, were halcyon days to those who called Wichita "home." A few people were called "Mister," but they could be counted on your fingers and thumbs. Nearly everybody was young—at least not over middle age—and the gray-headed man was almost alone. The wrinkled forehead, the gray head, the lack-luster eye, the bent form and the "lean and slippered pantaloons" were rarely observed. 'Twas the era of ambitious, buoyant, fearless youth, "when blood ran warmer than water." Wichita was happy, hopeful, hospitable, harmonious, ambitious, and so contented that "if the Creator had made us another world of one entire and perfect chrysolite," we would not have exchanged Wichita for it. We were "It," and we knew it. When these torn-down buildings were built, Judge Sluss, Governor Stanley, Greiffenstein, Kohn Brothers, Steele, Hope, Gilbert, Murdock, Schatners, Hays Brothers, Judge Jewett and Balderston, Fisher, Tucker, Adams & Levy, Oliver, Davidson, McClees, Allen, Fabrique, McCullough, W. A. Thomas, Black, Corbett, Parsons, Block, Hess, Getto, Hatton, following the above order, were Henry, Gene, Bill, Morris, Sol, J. M., Jim, Jake or "Tripe," Uncle Ben, Seth, Mose, M. W., A. W., J. O., Nels, Joe, Fab, Jim, Al, Jimmie, Scott, "Bully," Mike, Albert, Peter and "Caig."

As my cow pony wanders west on Douglas avenue and across the yards of the Pond Lumber Company, the Schwartz Lumber and Coal Company and the Union Mills, to the ford below the old toll bridge, I dig in the attic of my memory for things long unrecalled and almost forgotten.

Scenes vanished, unbidden rise
 From the ground before my eyes;
 Years of toil, hopes and fears,
 Freight with joy, watered in tears.

I hunt amongst the "jetsam and flotsam" of the past generation and recall the buoyant young men, as they are now remembered, when Wichita was a Texas cattle town, a straggling town in swaddling clothes, but "hitching its wagon to a star," and the past has such a roseate hue that now it almost seems that in that golden ambitious past, "the morning stars sang together and the

sons of God shouted for joy." In the days of old, the days of blue-stem and buffalo grass, keno, faro and all the things implied thereby, men were venturesome, brave and bold.

The sun shone clear, the world was new,
And Life was bright as sparkling dew.

South of the Schweiter corner stood old Eagle Block, or hall, and in the second story was the "Eagle" office, the county offices, the court room and a temporary jail. The ground floor on the corner was occupied by the Wichita Savings Bank, the Presbyterian minister's study in the rear. Caldwell & Titsworth's queensware and grocery store, the postoffice, G. H. Herrington's book store and Karatophasky's dry goods and notion palace occupied the ground floor east. ("Karatoph" was the fee owner of a new and young second wife and one son, aged about fifteen years. Said wife and son were not congenial, and what spare time "Karatoph" had away from the store and the new bride he spent mauling said youth in the rear of the store, on the back end of a vacant lot, where the Beacon Building now stands. This is a digression, but it is true.)

WICHITA'S FIRST CIRCUS.

East of Eagle Hall was a vacant space to Market street. The first circus that the scribe hereof attended in Wichita was on said vacant land. The circus tent was short on the top covers, and R. P. Murdock, John T. Stewart, Jim McCullough, Tommie Holmes, Gene Schatner and one other got on the roof of the Eagle Block and viewed the circus without paying the ordinary honorarium usually demanded by the door-keeper, the rule of circuses then being the same as now, that you can pay without going in, but you can't go in without paying. To the west of the New York corner, where the Kansas National Bank now stands, was the Progressive saloon, Jim Dagner's wholesale and retail liquor house, Pearce & Cogdell's cigar house, a barber shop, a Lone Star deadfall saloon, and overhead was a keno room, connected with other rooms, where there were a few games of chance, such as roulette, faro, gift enterprise, chuck-a-luck, poker (straight, bluff and stud), horse-head. On the theory of old Herodotus, the mention of the thing will be noted that one of the games of

chance above set forth is horse-head. On the theory of old Herodotus, the mention of the thing at a time, presupposes that the thing must have existed. No one in Wichita can tell what kind of a game horse-head was, but it evidently was a very pernicious gambling game, otherwise the city council of Wichita, good men and true, would not have prohibited the playing thereof. Over the sidewalk of this building, reached from the second floor by a door and from the sidewalk by a narrow stairway, was a balcony where, on the long summer nights, the band played and when the music died away there was a cheerful refrain that floated out upon the air and startled the night, the which, if I remember correctly, was about as follows:

“24, 38, 56, 21, 19, 33, 11, 17, Keno.”

Usually these sounds were followed by language not permissible in good society and never heard in Sunday school or church.

KENO ROOM DESCRIBED.

For the edification of those who never matriculated in keno, it is herein stated that this keno room was about 45x70 feet, and had six or eight long tables running from east to west. There was a chair about every two feet around this table, and these chairs were usually occupied. At midnight there was served a lunch, and those who were thirsty did drink, and those that were hungry did eat.

North of the New York corner, where the Hub clothing store now is, stood the Southern Hotel, which burned one night. A large lady appeared at the window and expressed a desire to be saved. Jim Steele, who weighed something over twenty stone, told her to jump, and he her saviour would be. The offer was immediately accepted. In about three seconds, at least 600 pounds of humanity was rolling around in the alley, as if it were a two-headed phenomenon. On the Main street front of this corner was Jim Hope's wholesale and retail liquor house, on the alley corner. Immediately north of this was the Oyster Bay Restaurant, conducted by Andy Wilt, and south on the corner was Steele & Smith's old land office. Between Hope and the land office was a theater. The first block on Main street, north, was the real business section of the city at that time. Douglas avenue, east from the corner, had no business except in the old Eagle

Block. George Salisbury, barrister at law, was an occupant of the Paul Eaton stand overhead. He had a law office in front and residence on the second floor back.

George was a "shekel" gatherer who had no superior. It is doubted if he had an equal. His library was imposing, until examined with a critic's eye. Once upon a time he defended a traveling book peddler, who had a consignment of Webster's dictionaries. Said peddler was short on cash, but was long on dictionaries. George took 100 Webster's dictionaries and put them on his shelf as fillers. George, for lung power, had no human equal in the law. His equal, if any, was a Spanish jack, and a reference to the jack by Judge S. M. Tucker in connection with George's lung power almost produced a duel, but this is another story. George left Wichita for Pueblo, thence to Cripple Creek, now unknown, but wherever he is and whatsoever he is doing, the sinking sun shows that George has more cash in his purse than he had when the sun rose. George, as a speaker, had no equal in Wichita. Others were more eloquent, more logical, some closer reasoners. Some, at times, were louder, but taking it all in all, George's speeches, for length, breadth and thickness, have never been surpassed since the days when old Bill Allen, of Ohio, put a foghorn out of commission on the Ohio river in the Hard Cider campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too, and little Van is a used-up man." At one time there was an auction store in the Paul Eaton stand, conducted by "Four Eyes" Fred Han-num and Tom Conklin. "Four Eyes," if he had been a lawyer, could have paid entrance fees and entered for the nine-hour test against Salisbury. On one occasion "Four Eyes" was selling a mule on Main street while George was in justice court across the street, defending a "coon" for stealing a watch. The united voices of these two orators paralyzed Main street and stopped the noise of Emil Werner's organ next door. Both orators appealed to the police court for protection from the other, one in the interest of justice and liberty, the other on the ground of interference with trade and commerce.

There was a mighty strife betwixt Douglas avenue and Main street. The Santa Fe depot on the east and the toll bridge on the west, naturally made Douglas avenue the main business artery of the great metropolis. When this mighty business was done, and Main street was downcast, disheartened and humbled, Greiffenstein, commonly called "Dutch Bill," without a collar

and with his vest unbuttoned and a heavy gold watch chain hanging down at the left side, rubbing his snow-blind eyes and sending upward wreaths of smoke from blended tobacco and perique, waved his pipe as a magic wand, and prophesied the future of Douglas avenue, about as follows: "This royal infant, yet in its cradle, contains for its people a thousand blessings, which time will bring to ripeness."

NOT EXACT QUOTATION.

Now, this is not exactly what William said on that occasion, but that is what he meant. His dream is not yet fulfilled. The crowd then adjourned and went over to Tom Jewel's place to play a game of "devil among the tailors," which was one of William's favorite games.

The bridge and depot were the beginning of the demolition of Main street. Lank Moore, Joe Allen, Sam Houck, Al Thomas, Hess and Getto, fled from North Main street, as rats from a sinking ship; that is, all fled to Douglas avenue, except Lank Moore, who was so disgusted that he went to Arizona. These men were all stout North Main street adherents, but they could not abide to see the trade going away from them, and they built on Douglas avenue, between Main and Market. Sol Kohn tore down a two-story brick building, formerly occupied as a wholesale house by Todd & Royal, at the corner of First and Main, and rebuilt the same on Douglas avenue, where the State Savings Bank and Governor Stanley's office are now situated, and the supremacy of the New York corner was fixed for a generation, if not for all time.

The lawyers also moved down from North Main street. Governor Stanley, also McClees and H. C. Day, loan agents, moved over the building where Vail's jewelry store was. Sluss and Hatton moved over the old Wichita Savings Bank; Balderston over the second story of the present site of the Shelley drug store.

R. S. Timmons, from Baltimore, also was on the second floor of this building. One John Stanard also hibernated in a room on the second floor. Adams, English, Ruggles and Yank Owens were over Richard & Rogers' store in this same New York block. This last firm had a sign, two and one-half feet wide and eighteen feet long, on which was printed in large goldleaf letters, "Adams, English & Ruggles, Lawyers." George Reeves denominated this

"the brass front firm," and it went by the name of the "brass front" until the end.

OLD-TIME LAW FIRMS.

Then the firm of Adams & Dale, succeeded by Dale & Dale, and then by Dale & Reed, were over the second floor on the corner west of Houck's store; also, Stanley & Wall occupied rooms at Stanley's old office. Stanley & Hatton and H. C. Higgenbotham were also there. Dr. Furley had an office over the old Charlie Lawrence drug store on the second lot east of the corner. The doctor had a "writ of assistance" served on him one night by Charlie Hill, his landlord. "Doc" had been up the street, calling on a young lady, and when he returned he found his carpet, chairs, stove and desks all piled up on the sidewalk and in the gutter. This at that time was, and as far as I know, ever since has been the most rapid forcible-entry-and-detention law suit that ever took place in Wichita. Charlie was not only plaintiff, but he was the justice of the peace and constable. With him, to think was to act. It is said that the doctor and Charlie Hill were never friends after this occasion, but of this I do not know. Dr. McAdams moved in the next day.

Robert S. Timmons, above spoken of, was a lawyer from Baltimore. He used tobacco in all forms, and whittled pine sticks. He went to Quannah, Texas, where afterward he became wealthy, and there died.

D. B. Butcher, a jeweler, called "Butch," was on the first floor. M. L. Garver and L. B. Bunnell and R. H. Roys had offices in the building torn down.

R. H. Roys, attorney at law, was a careful, methodical and painstaking, regular, perennial, non-union chess player. Law and money-making was a side issue with him. He at one time tried to get up a chess club, to be called "Calumet," or calamus root, or something of that sort. Probably Roys is this minute sitting with a chess board in front, working on the problem, "white to move and checkmate in five moves."

HE HAD NO PRACTICE.

John Stanard, as a lawyer, attended court regularly, looked after the call of the docket, but did not have any practice.

John came from Pennsylvania, but where he went to no one

knoweth. It was currently reported that John received an annuity, which was paid every ninety days, and which boarded and clothed him and allowed him to dress in black broadcloth and appear dignified. John Stanard had naturally at all times as much dignity as Judge Reed used to have in the morning, after attending an installation at the Consistory, and desired to appear as Perfect Master or Knight of the Brazen Serpent.

The young ladies of the town, when the old building was new, as I recall them, were Laura, Emma, Jose and Lou, Matie, Julia, Cora and Sue. There were Emmas three and Lauras two.

The trade of the town then was between Main and Market streets. Stanley, as county attorney, a few years afterward, sold at judicial tax sale over one thousand lots for delinquent taxes. He did not get enough money to pay the taxes. The costs ran up in thousands of dollars. Three particular lots now called to mind, which were in this judicial tax sale, sold for \$100 each, and they are now, on present Wichita values, worth about \$40,000.

The land office moved from Second and Main streets to 103 West Douglas avenue. The first mortgage on the Occidental Hotel, now called the Baltimore, was foreclosed and the hotel shut up. A fire at the corner of Second and Main streets, destroying a two-story building, left a vacant spot where the Northern Building now stands. The burning of two buildings on the left side of Main street, between Second and Third streets, where Winner and McNutt, to get some insurance money, burned the body of a man named Seiver, otherwise called "Tex." All of these things, taken together, gave Main street a "raggedy" appearance.

In this New York block, as it was then called, Kohn Brothers had the corner, just torn down. Charlie Hill occupied the drug store at 102 East Douglas avenue, afterward sold to Charlie Lawrence, Richards & Rogers, Allen & Tucker, grocers, and the J. P. Allen drug store and Murphy & Riley, filled this corner to the alley west of Houck's hardware store.

A GORGEOUS LAW OFFICE.

At that time the most gorgeous law office in Wichita was on the New York corner, over the second floor of this building. It was occupied by Robert J. Christy, formerly of Peabody, Kan.; formerly of Pittsburg, Pa., and lastly of the Pacific coast. Christy bought \$1,000 or \$1,500 worth of books and had carpets, chairs

and desks which made the ordinary Wichita attorney's mouth water. My recollection now is that Sluss sold all these books under chattel mortgage and thereby distributed a good many good law books around town, amongst the attorneys, which, perhaps, but for Robert J. Christy, would not have been on any law book shelf in Wichita for many years. Sale under this chattel mortgage caused the iron to enter into the soul of Robert J. Christy, and he pronounced a curse and doom upon the town and abandoned it forever.

In the front room in this corner building, just torn down, Jim McCullough, a whole-souled Scotchman, who had plenty of money and simply had a law office as a matter of introduction into good society, died. At that time Jim was city attorney. He made an oral will and bequeathed the office of city attorney to Judge Balderston. While there was no provision of law that permitted an officer, when dying, to bequeath his office to any successor, Jim Hope, who was mayor at the time, to carry out the wishes of the testator, accordingly appointed Judge Balderston as city attorney.

In front of this old corner building, Mike Meagher shot Sill Powell one night. Judge Jewett was a witness to the act. Nothing was ever done with Mike Meagher. The shot was heard around the corner and across the street and emptied old Eagle Hall of the theater-going public. At that time Simon Show was in progress in old Eagle Hall. Simon at that date was the star attraction in southwestern Kansas on the coal-oil circuit.

Whether or not Jim McCullough would have been a good lawyer, had he lived, no one can tell. Jim was too rich, with his income of \$200 a month in Wichita in 1874, to go through the drudgery of the ordinary law office. An old lawyer used to say that the quotation in the Bible, "It is harder for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle," was a mis-translation, and that it should have said, "It is harder for a rich man to become a lawyer than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle."

McCullough used to throw bones to the writer which were snapped up like a stray dog at the back end of a butcher shop in the long, hot, dry summer of 1874, about the time the grasshoppers swept the verdure of the fields of Kansas, even as the gardens and vineyards of France were swept, in the Franco-Prussian war, by Bismarck's Iron Dice of Destiny.

CHAPTER XXV.

THE LEGEND OF JOHN FARMER.

By

KOS HARRIS.

Many moons ago a tale to the writer was told, the which he will now unfold, concerning an old Wichita resident and citizen. The same was verified by him some years after the occurrence. There is now on the west side a real estate dealer and broker of the same name. It may be the same man; anyone who is curious can ask him.

The John Farmer who is the hero of this legend came to Wichita in its raw days, when bricks were unknown, when stone was as scarce as diamonds, lumber was higher in proportion than the present prices quoted by any "lumber trust" compared to the price before there was any trust. The assumption that there doth exist a lumber trust is founded on observation, conditions and a lack of real genuine, all wool, yard wide competition. But in the days whereof I write, lumber was high—higher than gold on "Black Friday," higher than "horse-liver" and "cat-chops" in Paris in January, A. D. 1871. There was a saw mill at the junction of Chisholm creek and the Arkansas that sawed cottonwood, and the small area of cottonwood fit to cut was watched as closely as a hen watches her chicks when a marauding hawk is overhead. John Farmer had a claim, whereon there was some small timber, and naturally desired to be among the pioneer timber dealers and reap the benefit of his foresight in getting a pre-emption that had timber on it. The majority of the would-be purchasers were "short" on cash, but long on promise, and as John had timber and the buyer had no cash, the trade, the negotiation, the commerce, was as at a standstill. All negotiations were broken off, and therein lies the deep, dark, despicable villainy that proved John's disastrous undoing.

At this time, in our peaceful hamlet, when buffalo hides were

legal tender, buffalo rump was steak and roasts, there was one Harry Van Trees, a duly elected and qualified "justice of th' peace," as full of tricks as a dog of fleas, hungry as a hound, out at the toes and also the knees, who had been living on beer, crackers and cheese, and who was growing tired of these and was ripe for stratagem and spoils. The timber buyers or thieves had recourse to the cunning and judicial wisdom of Judge Van Trees, who evolved a scheme as follows: One lovely morning, just about the break of day, John Farmer heard a crash like that made by falling timber. He got on some clothing right away and found that during his stunts the thieves were "making hay."

He scared them off with a gun, and put them on the run,
And deemed the victory won,
But did not reckon on the hours till the setting of the sun.

John recognized several of the malefactors, and under the advice of some neighbors, he sought the fount of justice of Judge Van Trees, on North Main street. He found the place by a sign as thereafter set out.

I am informed that the blind goddess at this date occupied a one-story edifice, twelve by fourteen, at least ten feet high, made of cottonwood lumber, with a square front so as to be as pretentious as possible. John explained the nature of the crime committed, and demanded that a warrant be issued. Judge Van Trees inquired into the matter, consulted the old statutes of 1868, and Spaulding's Treatise, and Swan, and Plumb. These books at that date were a law library in the law offices in the great terra incognita south and west of Emporia, at which time Emporia was the end of wisdom and beginning of ignorance in law and religion, politics, commerce and real business. The judge, as he looked John over, unto himself softly said:

Here is a chunk of raw Irish clay
Which Providence hath put in our way
To furnish food for a rainy day;
Therefore, let us be thankful and "prey."

The judge saw that John knew nothing of procedure, nothing of his legal rights; and, contrary to the statutes in such cases made and provided, he demanded a deposit of costs to the extent

of \$5, which John "put up," and the law commenced to grind. The celerity of the officer who served the warrant was a surprise to John. The officer was Mike or John Maher, Jim Cairns or Ike Walker. The criminals seemed to have courted arrest, as they were all in court in one hour, demanding separate trial, which was granted. All defendants were out on bail. After dinner one case was called and trial commenced. After all testimony was in and the case argued, the court discharged the defendant and made a finding that the prosecution was malicious, and held the prosecuting witness for all costs, taxed at \$50. This was a denouement not anticipated. There was no compassion, no relenting ruth, for the Irish youth who had told the truth; who was as green as his own Emerald Isle, even causing his tormentors to smile at his lack of guile, as they all the while were preparing to divide up his hard-earned money; yea, verily, even as Joseph's brethren divided up his price when he was sold into Gilead for twenty shekels. John was encompassed round and about by his enemies. In all the land there was no protecting hand to assuage his grief or grant unto him relief, for as much as the judge, of all the timber thieves, was the chief; though it passeth all belief that such "things" could be, yet such "things" were.

The judge at last grew merciful, and, as John had no shekels, rhino, mapus, chink, argumentum ad crumenam at hand, the court took his note for \$50, due in ninety days, and immediately took the same to Sol Kohn and got the money on it. He discharged ye prisoner, who, thankful to "get off with his skin," hurried home, and then the deep damnation of the plot broke out on John even as chickenpox on a healthy child. All the cut timber was gone; the timber thieves out on bond had, during the trial of the malefactor placed on trial, gone to the land and, unmolested by any one, had leisurely taken all they had cut in the morning, and John was left lamenting.

Note.—Mr. Harris is without a doubt the most prolific writer in Wichita outside of the newspaper profession. His writings cover a great variety of subjects, and his style is terse and vigorous. He possesses a great fund of humor, unlimited information, and a large good fellowship. His productions are always eagerly read by the people of Sedgwick county. Kos Harris is the Mark Twain of southern Kansas.—Editor.

CHAPTER XXVI.

WILLIAM MATHEWSON—BUFFALO BILL—LAST OF THE OLD SCOUTS.

By

DALE RESING.

I went to get the history of a city, and came back with the annals of an empire tucked away in my notebook. I had sought only for a few facts relative to the founding of a city, but when I had finished seeking there was enough material in my possession to build a reliable chronicle of the early days of Kansas and then leave plenty to write a fair-sized biography of the Last of the Old Scouts. The Last of the Old Scouts! The final shoot of that old stock of hardy frontiersmen which blazed the way from the Alleghanies to the Rockies for the thousands who later harked to the call of "Westward Ho!" Much has been written of Daniel Boone, the founder of the nineteenth-century school of frontiersmanship. Every youngster in the land knows how he went into the wilds of Kentucky in 1769, and there, fighting and treating with the Indians, paved the way for the future settlement of that country. Not a lad but knows of the wonderful exploits of David Crockett, who passed Boone's last settlement in Missouri and placed the outposts of civilization a little farther to the west, and then died at the hand of the bloody butcher, Santa Anna, in the Alamo. And the intrepid courage, skill and endurance of Kit Carson are subjects for many a thrilling tale in all future generations. But of the last of this illustrious line of daring explorers, hunters, Indian scouts and fighters little has ever been written. History says practically nothing of his life and deeds; and yet none of his famous predecessors of the same school did more to prepare the pathway for Western emigration and settlement. None saved more lives than this Last of the Old Scouts, who in his time rescued fifty-four women and children from camps of savage Indians, and prevented the massacre of hundreds of others.

No frontiersman fought the wild hordes of redskins with more courage and valor; and yet none was more respected, more feared and more beloved by the Indians than this last of the old-time pioneers. William Mathewson is his name. William Mathewson, of Wichita, heir in direct line to the prowess of Daniel Boone, 1735 to 1822; David Crockett, 1786 to 1836; and Kit Carson, 1809 to 1868. William Mathewson, 1830 and still living—living and pining, in his comfortable, modern home, for those old-time hardships and comrades of forty years ago, when men were men on the plains of Kansas, and lived only when they were men. So, it was to William Mathewson that I went for information regarding the foundation of the city of Wichita. And from him I went away with more appreciation of the danger and hardship of a pioneer life than I had ever gleaned from a dozen books.

He eyed me stolidly as I entered his cozy little parlor on the chill October evening, and backed up to the cheerful blaze of the grate fire. And I as frankly scanned his battle-scarred countenance. It was a noble brow that I saw—high, broad and fringed with snowy hair, combed backward. Beneath shaggy eyebrows two gray-blue eyes gleamed steady and stern. The mouth was thin, straight and firm. A square, lean jaw and sinewy neck based the noble proportions of the head. A deep scar in the chin was half hidden by the scraggly gray hairs of the beard. But striking beyond other features was the huge, hooked nose, like the beak of an eagle. "What's the use of my talking of these things to you?" he had said when I queried him regarding his connection with the early history of Kansas. "Why should I speak of them to anybody? You can't understand; you don't know what they mean. Nobody knows or can know, except those who were here in those early days. I could tell you of the hardships, the drouths, the famines, the terrible massacres, but even then you couldn't understand." The words were spoken half reprovingly, half sadly. As they fell from the lips of William Mathewson, the Last of the Old Scouts, I scanned the stern, battle-scarred face of the old Indian warrior with a keen interest. Yes; he was right. There was no possibility of any one of the present generation realizing half the horror, half the privation, the danger through which passed the pioneers of the great Middle West. Those scars on that austere countenance were too deep to fathom; those lines and furrows carried by too stern a hardship to understand.

The eyes of William Mathewson closed. His head rested

wearily in his hand, while I, the visitor, sat silent and full of inspired admiration. I had heard of Indian fighters, read of them in books; but never in my life had I beheld one belonging to the old school. And now that it was one of the greatest of them who was before me, I was dumb with mingled sensations.

I tried to grasp the trend of the old scout's thought. But it ran too fast for me. On and on it raced, touching here and there on the greatest deeds of a life full of adventure, till sixty years were covered, and William Mathewson, with a few sturdy comrades, was seen crossing the vast prairies west of the Mississippi in the year of 1849. For three hours I listened to the incidents and experiences of this man's life. And when it was over I went out of the cozy little parlor half fearing that instead of seeing the well lighted street of the city I should find a wide, moon-lighted prairie, dotted here and there with the camp fires of Indian lodges. Thus vivid were the tales of adventure told by the Last of the Old Scouts. When we had sat for a long time silent, he spoke again. Staring with half-shut eyes into the cheerful grate fire, his thoughts doubtless wandering over some half-forgotten trail of the prairie trod half a century ago, I hungrily waiting for him to pick up the thread and lead me with him through some of those vast, strange wildernesses. My nostrils dilated as did those of my host to sense the smell of camp-fire smoke. In my veins raced something of that flame called "wanderlust." "You have never tasted buffalo meat, young man," said the old scout, abruptly, "and you don't know what real eating is. I wish I had a big juicy steak out of a young buffalo cow to give you. It's the finest meat in the world—just as much superior to the best of corn-fed beef as the beef is superior to mule meat. I know, for I've eaten all of them. Many's the time I've lived on buffalo meat alone. And it was good living, too. There is more nutrition in a buffalo steak than in any meat a man ever ate."

So, piecemeal, I drew out the life story of William Mathewson, known to early settlers from the Missouri river to the Rockies as "Buffalo Bill" between the years of 1860 to 1880. There was no connected recital of events. William Mathewson is a man of eighty years. His mind was filled with the thoughts of his Indian fighting and scouting days on the plains of Kansas; but as the separate incidents came back to him they were sadly out of their historical place, but none the less interesting.

WILLIAM MATHEWSON.

By

MRS. J. R. MEAD.

The Last of the Old Scouts! The final shoot of that old stock of hardy frontiersman, which blazed the way from the Alleghenies to the Rockies for the thousands who later harked to the call of "Westward Ho."

Much has been written of Daniel Boone, the founder of the nineteenth century school of frontiersmanship. Every youngster in the land knows how he went into the wilds of Kentucky in 1769 and there fighting and treating with the Indians paved the way for the future settlement of that country. Not a lad but knows of the wonderful exploits of David Crockett, and the intrepid courage, skill and endurance of Kit Carson. But of the last of this illustrious line of daring explorers, hunters, Indian scouts and fighters little has ever been written, and yet none of his famous predecessors of the same school did more to prepare the pathway for western immigration and settlement. None saved more lives; no frontiersman fought the wild hordes of red skins with more courage and valor, and yet none was more respected, more feared and more beloved by the Indians than this last of the old time pioneers.

William Mathewson is his name. William Mathewson of Wichita, heir in direct line to the prowess of Daniel Boone, 1735 to 1822; David Crockett, 1786 to 1836, and Kit Carson, 1809 to 1868. William Mathewson, the original "Buffalo Bill," is a native of Broome county, New York, his birth place being located in the town of Triangle. He went west when young and earned his name after passing through wild adventures among the Indians and killing buffaloes.

In the beginning of the eighteenth century, three brothers, heads of the Mathewson family in America, emigrated from Scotland. One of them, William Mathewson, great grandfather of the subject of this biography, settled in Connecticut, where he engaged in farming until his death, having been a soldier of the French war. His son, William Mathewson, was born in Connecticut in 1743; was a farmer all his life, and during the Revolution participated in the campaigns in New England until the close of the war. In 1806 he removed to and settled in Broome county,

New York, when the country was wild and very thinly settled; clearing his land of timber he engaged in farming there until his death, in 1835, aged 92 years. His son, Joseph Mathewson, was born in Connecticut in 1790, removing with his parents to New York. He engaged in hunting and trapping until the incoming settlers drove the game from the country, when he engaged in farming and stock raising until his death, in 1835, aged 45 years.

His son, William, the subject of this sketch, was born in Broome county, New York, January 1, 1830, being the seventh of eight children. His mother's maiden name was Eliza Stickney, who moved with her parents from New Hampshire to a farm on Page Brook in the town of Triangle, adjoining the farm owned by Joseph Mathewson.

When but a child, his inclinations were for the wild, roving life of a hunter. He inherited the intrepid daring of his Highland Scottish ancestry and longed for the adventurous life of a frontiersman. Remaining at home after his father's death and his mother's second marriage to Charles Mathewson from Vermont, a soldier of 1812, he attended the country schools until he was ten years old. He then went to live with an older brother, where he stayed three years. At the age of thirteen he went into the lumber regions of Steuben county, New York, and there and in western Pennsylvania, was employed in the lumber and mill business a part of each year until he was eighteen years old. In the fall of the year he would set out with other hunters on a long hunting expedition, and would go to Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Canada, returning home from these trips towards spring. He was a part of the time engaged in looking up pine lands in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and at one time acted as a guide to a party of land buyers through the unknown West.

When he was nineteen years of age, New York state was too small for him. He had hunted and trapped in its every nook and corner; explored its mountains and streams. He yearned for the great West of vast prairies and towering mountains, where game was big and plentiful, and every hour was full of adventure. Like Alexander the Great, he wanted new worlds to conquer. In 1849, he embraced the opportunity offered him by the Northwestern Fur Company, with headquarters at Ft. Benton, Montana, and went West with a party of men. Through Montana, the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Wyoming, passed this party, trading with the Indians where they found the redmen friendly, fighting



She Mathewson

them when the war dance reigned instead of the peace pipe, but ever pushing farther into the wilderness. It was in this expedition that Mathewson acquired his first knowledge of Indian warfare. Their hunting grounds were in the territory of the Blackfeet, a hostile and warlike tribe, and the intrepid hunters kept their position only by their courage and the accuracy of their marksmanship. At one time they were surrounded by a war party of the Blackfeet and did not dare to leave their stockade to give them battle. After very severe fighting, however, the Blackfeet were driven off. During their continuance in that country, they were exposed to continual danger and were compelled to be ever on the alert and to carefully study the character of the people in whose country they were employed.

After remaining nearly two years in the employ of the Fur Company, Mr. Mathewson joined that famous party under the leadership of the world renowned Kit Carson, consisting of the two Maxwells, James and John Baker, and Charles and John Atterby. They came south to the head of the Arkansas river in Colorado, traversing the foot-hills of the Rocky mountains, crossing the head waters of the Big Horn—where General Custer was subsequently killed—the north and south forks of the Platte, down through the country where Denver now stands, when there was no sign of habitation, and elk, deer, antelope and other game, were abundant. Mathewson went with Kit Carson to get the Indians together and prevent them from raiding into Mexico.

In 1852 he entered the employ of the Bent-St. Vrain trading post at the foot of the Rockies. This post furnished supplies for all of the spare settlements in Eastern Colorado, Western Nebraska and Kansas and even on back to the central part of the latter state. Often young Mathewson wondered at this condition of affairs. He saw no use in the freighting of provisions across Kansas, and then sending them back three hundred miles into the territory, through which they had just come. Asking the reason for this, his curt answer was "Indians."

A year with the Bent-St. Vrain trading post gave William Mathewson a new insight into the affairs of the West. He had traversed the entire unsettled region between the Missouri river and the Rocky mountains and his keen brain saw readily that when emigration burst through the Missouri river boundary, the settlement of Eastern and Central Kansas would be rapid. With this in mind he determined to establish a trading post somewhere

near the center of Kansas on the old Santa Fe trail. The announcement of this determination brought down on the head of Mathewson a storm of ridicule. Seasoned frontiersmen said that no trading post could stand a week on the prairies of Kansas where the Indians were as thick as buffalo. No man had yet dared such a thing so far away from military protection. But just here the indomitable courage and determination of the man cropped out. He listened to the ridicule of the older and more experienced men. He heard their importunities with stolid indifference; his mind was made up, and in 1853, four years after he had joined the Northwestern Fur Company, Mr. Mathewson opened up his trading post at a point known throughout the west as the Great Bend of the Arkansas river on the old Santa Fe trail. This post Mr. Mathewson maintained for ten years and it was while living here that the most remarkable deeds of his career were accomplished.

Here in 1861, Mr. Mathewson had a personal encounter with Satanta (White Bear), who in his time was the boldest and most powerful of the Kiowa Indian chieftans. Satanta, with a small band of warriors entered the post and announced his intention of taking the life of Mr. Mathewson for the death of one of his braves, killed while stealing a horse from the post. In a flash Mr. Mathewson floored the Kiowa chieftain and gave him a severe beating. The followers of Satanta, whom Mr. Mathewson had driven from the house at the point of a revolver, were then forced to carry their defeated leader back to camp. For this humiliating defeat, Satanta swore revenge. Hearing of this and deeming it best to settle the matter once for all, Mr. Mathewson rode out alone on the prairie in search of his enemy. Satanta, learning of the pursuit, and deeming discretion the better part of valor, fled and did not return for more than a year. When he did return, he acknowledged Mr. Mathewson as his master and entered into a treaty with him, giving as a token of his subservience, a number of his best Indian horses. From that time on Mr. Mathewson was known in every Indian camp of the plains as "Sinpah Zilbah," the "Long-bearded Dangerous White Man."

The thing for which Mr. Mathewson was most revered and most renowned in Kansas pioneer days was that which obtained for him that famous sobriquet of "Buffalo Bill." The winter of 1860 and 1861 was a hard one for the early settlers of the Sunflower state. Hot, scorching winds of the summer had burned

up the crops, and all over the eastern part of the state they were literally starving. Finally good news reached them. A man returning from the west over the Santa Fe trail brought with him a wagon load of buffalo meat. Meeting some of the famishing settlers headed westward the man was beseeched to know where he secured such a bountiful supply of meat.

"Out to Bill's," he replied.

"Bill who?" eagerly asked the hungry settlers as they cast longing glances at the buffalo meat. "Oh, just Bill, the buffalo killer out at Big Bend; that's all I know."

So the fame of Bill, the buffalo killer spread. By late in September dozens of settlers were coming to the Mathewson ranch each week with empty wagons that went away creaking with the weight of buffalo meat. By the last of October as many were coming each day with pleadings for meat for the famishing settlers. And none were turned away empty handed. Day after day William Mathewson followed the magnificent herds of the prairie, selecting with unerring skill the fat young cows and bringing them down with one shot each. With tears in their eyes the hungry settlers thanked Bill, the buffalo killer. Some offered pay and others promised it when they had anything to pay with. All were grateful and ever retained memories of the man who saved them from starvation in that terrible winter of 1860 and 1861. Till February, William Mathewson remained on the buffalo range, some days killing and sending eastward as many as eighty carcasses of fat cows. Each day brought its quota of gaunt, penniless settlers, and each day, no matter what the weather, Mathewson shouldered his rifle and with a few hours of tramping sent his guests rejoicing homeward with all the choicest buffalo roasts and steaks they could carry.

Thus William Mathewson earned his title of "Buffalo Bill." To this day there is many a family, living in the first cities of Kansas and Nebraska, who remember and cherish the name of "Buffalo Bill." In one of these homes during recent years Mr. Mathewson was introduced to the children as the man who saved the lives of their parents through his skill and fame as a hunter of buffalo. And it is this title of Buffalo Bill, so nobly earned, that William Mathewson himself cherishes most of all his possessions.

An Indian fighter of skill and daring, William Mathewson's fame was wide spread throughout the frontier in the early sixties.

But his fame following a deed of unusual intrepidity near his Cow Creek ranch where he was located after selling the Great Bend post in 1863, reached the officials of the war department in Washington and brought to the brave man a fitting reward.

It was in the summer of 1864 when the Indians took the war path and were terrorizing the settlers in the most extreme settlements of Kansas. Satanta, the war chief of the Kiowas, after his treaty with "Sinpah Zilbah" was the fast friend of William Mathewson. He warned the latter of the uprising three weeks in advance, and entreating him to leave, stating that in revenge for having been fired on by a regiment of soldiers, the Indians were not going to leave a white man, woman or child west of the Missouri, and insisted that Mr. Mathewson leave at once, but instead of fleeing, Mr. Mathewson sent all of the settlers to places of safety, and then settled down with a few brave men to hold his trading post. All of his men had the choice of going or remaining. Five remained, but these were armed with the first breech-loading rifles that had ever been used on the plains of Kansas.

On the morning of July 20 a band of fifteen hundred Indians, gaudy in war paint and feathers, surrounded the Mathewson post. There was no delay in the first attack, but less in the retreat. The new fangled guns in the hands of skilled marksmen dealt out death to Indians and Indian horses. For three days the red warriors skulked about the post, attacking, reconnoitering and spying. But always they were forced to retreat quickly, upon coming within range of the deadly certain fire of the breech-loading rifles. Long after the fight was history and peace reigned between the Indians and Sinpah Zilbah, the warrior chieftans tried to learn from Mr. Mathewson how many men he had within the post during the terrible vigil. Mr. Mathewson smiled and replied that he had had plenty. So the redskins never knew how easy it would have been to have captured the post with one grand onslaught. In reality they had thought the place swarmed with men because of the rapid firing of the breech-loading guns. As it was, the Indians lost 160 horses, and a score or more of their kinsmen upon the prairie.

When Mr. Mathewson was first warned of the Indian uprising, among the first things he did was to write to the Overland Transportation Company, and to Bryant, Banard & Company, telling them of the uprising and not to send any wagons out, in reply to

which he got a letter from the Bryant, Banard & Company telling him they had already started a train before his letter was received, and that the train was loaded with modern rifles, and ending with the appeal, "For God's sake save this train as it is loaded with arms and ammunition." And it was on the fourth day of the siege that this great overland train of 147 wagons, loaded with supplies for the government posts of New Mexico, in charge of 155 men, appeared upon the scene. Ignorant of the Indian uprising, the train had come within three miles of the post. When dawn broke on the fourth day of the battle, Mr. Mathewson discovered that he and his comrades had been deserted by the Indians. In sudden apprehension he mounted the highest building of the post. One glance through his field glass told the story, even in the dim half light of the morning. There to the eastward three miles was the government train, drawn up in the usual camp half circle, and the whole surrounded by Indians. The horror of the situation was staggering to William Mathewson. He had received government advice of the train and knew that there were no experienced Indian fighters among the men in charge, nor were any of them well armed. They were ignorant of the contents of the wagons, the contents being disguised. What a massacre there would be unless something could be done quickly. Not only would the train be destroyed, but the Indians equipped with the rifles and ammunition from the government wagons stood in condition to make good their threat to kill every white man, woman and child west of the Missouri. For a few minutes Mr. Mathewson studied the situation. He saw the ever diminishing circle of the mounted red-skins; saw them stealthily closing in on the train. Quick thoughts passed through the brain of the grim watcher. In his mind's eye he saw the slaughter of the wagon men, the looting of the rifles and provisions, and then, most horrible of all, the carnage of the eastern settlement at the hands of these savages armed with the improved guns. For a long time, as time is reckoned in such cases, William Mathewson scanned the scene to the east of the post. His thoughts ran smoothly and rapidly over one plan and another. Occasionally he saw puffs of smoke that brought to earth a horse or a red-skin, but the circle narrowed. He watched a little group of the horsemen gather on either side of the one gap in the circle of wagons. He knew they were planning the rush which would take them inside the circle for a hand-to-hand conflict in which there would

be no doubt as to the result. Turning to his most trusty companion, he inquired if he could hold the stockade in his absence. Being answered that he could, he ordered his horse saddled, and was ready himself, with his Sharp's rifle and six Colt's revolvers, when the mare was led out of the stable. She was a fine beast, this mare Bess, of Hamiltonian breed. Far famed on the prairies was she for speed and endurance; often had she outrun an antelope.

As William Mathewson mounted his men gathered around him astonished. Surely he could not be so foolhardy as to attempt to reach the wagon train through that cordon of savages. The attempt meant certain death and nothing accomplished. But there was no sign of relenting from his purpose in the stern countenance of the horseman. Brave men wept at the thought of their leader riding out to his death but all was unavailing. After a hearty handshake with each of the little band and a cheery good-bye, William Mathewson touched the spurs to the sensitive flank of the mare, and the two shot out of the stockade gate like a whirlwind. Valiantly the good steed sped over the prairie toward the Indians and the wagons. With heavy hearts the little band mounted the stockade building and took turns at the glass, watching with fascination the ever diminishing cloud of dust in which they knew their leader to be enveloped. At times their hearts beat high in hope; and again almost stifled them with throbs of despair.

Before starting on this perilous mission, William Mathewson had weighed his chances coolly. He knew Indian nature well and trusted much to the belief that all would be too deeply engrossed with the attack to see him till it was too late. Then he allowed for the possibility of the men within the wagon circle, holding off the enemy till he arrived. But the chief trust of the undertaking, he placed in the strength, speed and endurance of his magnificent steed. If she held out, the chances were good. If not—well, a man has to die sometime, and this was a worthy cause.

But there was no faltering of steps on the part of the mare; no stumbling in prairie dog-holes, no slacking of the splendid stride taken at the beginning. Straight and sure went the horse and rider toward the loophole in the wagon circle, across which log chains were strung to keep in the horses at night.

On the stockade roof the five men saw the little cloud of dust draw near to the tiny lane formed by the rows of Indians on either side of the gap in the wagon circle. With bated breath,

they saw that there was no stopping to reconnoiter, to study the situation or weigh the chances. But they know William Mathewson and realized that all this had been done beforehand.

Suddenly the man with the glass noted a commotion among the Indians forming the lane out from the gap. A cloud of dust shot between the two lines and dashed on toward the wagons. As it passed the Indians closed in behind him and a tremor of terror passed over the body of the eager watchers. Was all lost? Or all saved? The next few minutes were tense with excitement for the five men on the stockade. There was an unquestionable commotion among the Indians, and the uncertainty gave them hope. Minutes passed like hours, and the Indians circled wildly about. Then suddenly they scattered pell-mell and left the wagon train clear.

It was true; William Mathewson had burst into the little camp like a cannon ball. Shot after shot whizzed past his ears as he dashed through the two lines of startled Indians. But so sudden was it all that none had time or thought to take aim. A second later, landing in the midst of the startled camp, William Mathewson was off his horse and calling lustily for an axe. He quickly mounted one of the wagons, split open the boxes and handed out rifles and ammunition to the men. Many of them were acquainted with him and all had heard of him. Cheer after cheer went up when they recognized who their rescuer was. In a moment a well directed fire was turned on the now astonished and bewildered Indians. After continuing the fight for a short time, having many of their number killed and wounded, the Indians beat a hasty retreat. Not yet being satisfied with the victory, Mr. Mathewson organized and mounted the teamsters at once, and giving chase, drove the Indians miles away. After taking needed rest, burying their dead, and repairing the ravages of the fight, the train moved on to its destination.

In 1864, our subject joined Blunt's expedition as a scout, and it was through his exertions that comparative quiet was restored.

The great Indian War of 1864 and 1865 and the great Civil War between the North and the South was nearly at its turning point, and Uncle Sam needed all the soldiers he could get. There was one regiment on the plains in western Kansas and Colorado which was ordered into the states for active service. When that order reached the Colonel, he ordered two or three battalions of

his regiments to march to the Indian camps and fire on them, which they did, and caused the Indians to go on the war path.

After the close of the Civil War in the States, the Government commenced sending troops out to subdue the Indians. In the meantime, the officials at headquarters commenced to look into the report as to the cause of this Indian outbreak, and orders came to the commander of the western department not to send any expedition against the Indians, but try and get some one to go to the wild Indians and see if they could get them to come into council with the Commissioners that the President would send out to meet them, but the man or men could not be found that would go. They tried to get the other Indians to take messages from the Great Father at Washington to the wild Indians, but all was of no avail; nobody would go.

After a conference with the commanding officers, superintendent of Indian affairs, and the agents for the different tribes of Indians, it was decided that William Mathewson should be sacrificed to appease the wrath of the Indians; he said he would go providing he could get orders from the President of the United States with the seal of the United States on the document; also an order from the Secretary of War and from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; he also got a commission from General Sanborn.

Mathewson started from Larned, Kansas, going to the mouth of the Little Arkansas river to get below the picket line of the Indians, who were watching the soldiers; traveling under cover of the darkness and secreting himself during the day; the fourth day after leaving the Arkansas he came in sight of the camp, and lay in hiding all that day. That evening in wandering around and debating with himself as to the best method of approach, he accidentally met the daughter of the head chief of the Kiowa tribe, whom he knew personally. She was badly frightened at sight of him, but he spoke to her in her own language and told her to get him to her father's tepee as fast as possible, which she did. The tepee was filled with the head men of the tribe, who was much startled at sight of Mathewson in their midst. He told them that he had a message from the great Father to read to them, and on showing them the big seal of the Government, they assured him protection. The Kiowa tribe was divided into two parts; one was hostile and the other peaceable and they warred among themselves all night over the possession of Mathewson, but the peaceable ones were finally successful in driving away the

hostile tribe, but next day the chiefs of the hostile tribes came back unarmed, and agreed to listen to the message brought by Mathewson from the Great Father; they all consented to come in, provided the chiefs of the other tribes would also come, so they sent runners out to bring in the chiefs of the other tribes to the Kiowa camp so they could all consult together, and they went with him to meet the Superintendent of Indian Affairs and other officials to make arrangements for a future council. The council was held between the Big and Little Arkansas rivers. The Commissioners appointed by the President to treat with the Indians were four Generals of the United States army, one senator and two congressmen, Kit Carson and Col. A. G. Boone, nephew of Daniel Boone. After the council treaty was agreed to, and made to satisfy all, the documents being signed by all parties.

The Indians told the Commissioners there was another treaty they wanted to make the next day, so on the following morning at nine o'clock, they again met in council; the Commissioners asked them their wishes, and they replied they wanted to make a treaty with "Sinpah Zilbah," and they didn't want him to join with the soldiers any more, against them. They told the commissioners if they would take him away from the soldiers, they could kill all the soldiers with clubs that they could bring into the country; they both feared and respected him and wanted him to stay in the country and trade with them and they would see that he or his men were not molested in any way by the Indians. That treaty was also confirmed by all.

In 1867 the Indians were again on the war path, the result of being fired upon by a regiment of soldiers. Mr. Mathewson at that time was to the South trading with the Indians, and did not get back for three weeks; when he came back he went to Junction City and telegraphed to Washington, asking the recall of General Hancock and that he (Mr. Mathewson), would take care of the Indians. They telegraphed General Hancock, in care of Mr. Mathewson, to return, and Mr. Mathewson overtook him just as he was about to cross the river where Dodge City now is, and delivered the message, and then Mr. Mathewson got the Indians together for another treaty, known as Medicine Lodge treaty, after which they ceded all their rights and title to lands in Kansas and Colorado to the Government, and the Indians went back to their reservations, and William Mathewson went with

them; lived and traded with them for seven years, preventing outbreaks of the 1865 and 1867 type, settling internal quarrels, and doing all in his power to make the red skins satisfied with their lots.

During the years between 1865 and 1873, William Mathewson saved 54 women and children from deaths at the hands of the savage tribes, or from a life of unspeakable slavery and drudgery.

One of these was a young woman who had been captured in Texas by the Kiowas and brought North into Kansas where she escaped. It was by his knowledge of the sign language that he was able to rescue her. Approaching by stealth, he learned of her escape from the recital by Kiowas to Apaches, to which latter tribe the Kiowas offered a reward of horses if they would assist in her recapture. Mr. Mathewson immediately determined to save the girl from being taken by the Indians.

He saddled and mounted his favorite mare, Bess, which could outrun anything else in the country, and had figured prominently in other rescues; and with a horse which he led, set out in the face of a driving storm, figuring that as the wind was from the Northwest, she would be driven somewhat to the East, and adopting this line of search, spent two days of endless trials and hardships. On his way he met a party of Indians to whom he said he was going in search of meat; they offered him a supply from theirs, but he told them it was insufficient and proceeded in his search. Finally he struck the trail of the girl's Indian pony, and on the evening of the second day he found her more dead than alive, aback the gaunt, starved horse that staggered about in the storm, but thinking it was an Indian she tried to escape. He took her to a ranch, where they got her dinner and allowed her to sleep, to bathe and refresh herself. From there they went on to Council Grove, where his friend Mr. Simcox had a store. Mrs. Simcox took charge of her. He had left word at the ranch for the Indians that he had the girl and they could not have her, as he would shoot the first one who attempted. They did not follow. She remained with Mrs. Simcox and a few years later married, and still lives there.

Mr. Mathewson also arranged with the Chief of the Kiowas for the release of two little girls held captive by them, whose names were Helen and Louise Fitzpatrick, aged six and four years. Their parents were killed by the Indians. The eldest child remembered the massacre. Mr. Mathewson intended to raise these

children, and the Government appropriated money for their education and promised to return them to Mr. Mathewson, but did not do so. Their names were changed from Fitzpatrick to Helen and Louise Lincoln. The Government took them to Washington and kept them there.

In the spring of 1866, about the 1st of May, Mr. Mathewson went to Leavenworth to dispose of a train load of furs that he had collected during the winter. At that time there was a large wholesale firm that handled exclusively Indian goods to supply Indian traders. This firm was known as Peck, Durfee & Company. This firm bought furs, and would assist Indians traders in shipping their furs to Eastern markets.

The next day after Mathewson's arrival in Leavenworth, Mr. Durfee told him that the leading citizens were going to have a banquet at his house the next night, and make a special request that he should attend. Mr. Mathewson thanked him for the invitation, but told him it would be impossible for him to attend. The next day Mrs. Durfee and Mrs. Peck came down to Mr. Durfee's store and insisted on Mr. Mathewson's coming, and told him they would not take no for answer, and he was finally induced to go. After refreshments, Mr. Durfee called the house to order, and a motion to elect Mr. Mathewson speaker of the house was unanimously carried, and he was informed that as speaker he was expected to relate some of his experiences, and more especially his experiences in releasing women and children from captivity among the Indians, after which excusing himself he put on his overcoat preparatory to departing when Mr. Durfee ask him to take the key which he gave him and unlock a rose-wood case which he had brought from another room and display its contents to the ladies. As the case was opened, there was displayed to view a most beautiful pair of six shooters which had carved ivory handles and were silver mounted and inlaid with gold. Mr. Mathewson jokingly said he knew of no one better qualified to use those than he, upon which Mr. Durfee begun the presentation speech, the sentiment of which was that they were presented to him by The Overland Transportation Company in recognition of his saving 155 men and 147 wagons of government supplies. General Curtis in speaking said: "Nothing in the annals of history compares with the feats of bravery done by you." In speaking of the affair afterwards, Mr. Mathewson said: "You could have knocked me down with a feather when they gave me those guns.

with my name carved on them. I have been in tight places in my time, passed through many a danger, but nothing ever took my nerve away so completely as the presentation of those guns. I was speechless, but finally stammered some sort of appreciation and rode away over the starlit prairie that night, the proudest man on the frontier."

During the fall and winter of 1854-55, and in March of the latter year, Mr. Mathewson, with a small party of hunters, were in the mountains of Colorado. While on the Colorado river, in the southern part of the then territory, they undertook to cross over the Santa Christa range to the St. Louis valley. Thirteen men besides himself, formed the party, comprising what is known in frontier parlance as two outfits. They were in that region for the purpose of hunting, trapping and prospecting for gold. The party had gone thither in the fall, and for mutual protection kept together. The game at that time of the year on the high mountains was very scarce, and heavy snowstorms having prevailed for a long time, they were caught in the wild fastnesses of the mountains and soon ran short of food. They were on very short rations about two weeks, and after that prolonged fast there were four days that they had nothing to eat, and no water but snow. Eleven of the men became nearly wild from hunger and thirst, and were in danger of killing one another for food. Two of Mr. Mathewson's associates he could rely upon, and with these he disarmed the eleven, and kept them under guard. It was at this time that probably the highest test of his courage, bravery and fortitude was exhibited. He was also in a weak and famished condition, yet determined that he would force the party to abide by his decision, and not do each other injury, declaring to them that even at that critical moment, if they would be guided by his counsel, he would yet bring them out in safety. After getting them in camp on the evening of the fourth day, though himself hardly able to walk, he informed them that he would go out and search for game. Having proceeded a short distance from the camp, and nearly exhausted from the effort, he sat down on the brow of a canyon, and after watching for some time he saw no game, and rose to return to camp. Seating himself again, however, and soon after looking across to an adjacent canyon, a little over 100 yards away, his heart was gladdened by seeing a large black-tailed deer walk out from behind the jutting crags. With promptness he shot it, and the sharp crack of his rifle was heard

by his distressed companions in camp. So wild with delight was Mathewson, that mounting an adjacent eminence and swinging his "sombbrero" around his head, his clarion voice sounded the glad tidings to the despairing men. In a few minutes he was joined by them, and from that time the question of their being saved was solved.

In 1868 Mr. Mathewson pre-empted a homestead at a spot near the Arkansas river which is now in the heart of the city of Wichita. Here he built the first house in Wichita of logs, which was torn down in the fortieth year after its erection. From some shingles and other wood from it has been made a fine violin.

Mr. Mathewson has been a permanent resident of Wichita since 1876, and has carried on agriculture on a large scale on his farms of several hundred acres. He has been a live stock and real estate dealer and in 1887 organized a bank in Wichita, of which he was president. He had an interest in three street railway lines in that city and stock in two national banks. In 1878, he established a brick plant, south of the city, for the manufacture of dry-pressed brick. For many years past, until he sold his farms, he devoted himself mostly to agriculture, and obtained a gold medal for the best exhibit of corn at the Omaha Exposition.

Mr. Mathewson spent thirty years among the Indians, trapping, hunting buffalo, and trading. The territory covered by him is now occupied by the Dakotas, Nebraska, Montana, Kansas, and Indian Territory.

While living at Walnut Creek ranch, many noted men were their guests, of whom Gens. Sherman, Hancock and Canby may be mentioned, and Henry M. Stanley, the African explorer, and on his second trip to Africa, tried to induce Mr. Mathewson to go with him. Col. J. H. Leavenworth, the noted Indian agent, made his home at their house, and by the influence and assistance of Mr. Mathewson was enabled to reach and negotiate treaties with the hostile tribes.

Mr. Mathewson has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married, August 28, 1864, was Miss Elizabeth Inman, who was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1842, and immigrated with her parents to this country in 1850. She became an expert in the use of the rifle and revolver, and was her husband's companion among the Indians, passing through many scenes of border life. She was possessed of undaunted courage, and was the first white woman who ever crossed the Arkansas river and

went through the Indian Territory, and on more than one occasion she stood by her husband's side and help beat back the savage foe who attacked their home and camp. It was from her that Henry M. Stanley obtained much of the information he furnished Eastern papers concerning savage life on the plains. At Walnut ranch she became a successful and favorite trader with the Indians, who called her "Marrwissa" (Golden Hair). She died October 1, 1885, leaving two children, Lucy E. and William A. Mathewson, who are now of full age.

Mr. Mathewson's second marriage which occurred May 13, 1886, was to Mrs. Tarlton, a most estimable lady of Louisville, Ky., whose maiden name was Henshaw. Socially he is a Mason, an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, and Improved Order of Red Men. He was for three years Grand Instructor of Odd Fellows of the State.

Mr. Mathewson is of tall and commanding figure, six feet and a half inch in height; noted for his great strength and wonderful power of endurance; forehead broad and of medium height; features distinctly marked without angularity; blue eyes and formerly dark hair and complexion; modest in his demeanor, he abstains from all boasting; retiring in his disposition, he avoids publicity, preferring the quiet and seclusion of private life. Positive in his character, calm and self possessed in the moment of danger, energetic and persevering, he is a bright example of that class of men who opened the country to the demands of civilization.

CHAPTER XXVII.

SOME WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE.

WICHITA'S MAYOR.

Upon the mayor of the city, as head of the municipal government, devolves the duty of looking after the department of public safety, which includes the police and fire departments. Members of both these departments are subject to civil-service rules, with the exception of the department heads. The reason for this is that the work of the police and firemen is of a character that requires trained men, and when such men are once obtained, they should not be subject to dismissal at the whim of any one. There are thirty-nine men in the Wichita fire department, with A. G. Walden at the head and A. L. Brownell as assistant. Wichita has five fire stations, known as Central and Numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6. There are nineteen men in the Central station, eight in No. 3, and four each in the others. In the police department there are thirty-six persons, including J. H. McPherson, chief; W. H. Boston, assistant, and Helena S. Mason, police matron. The executive department, of which the mayor is head, includes the city clerk, the city attorney and assistant, the police judge and the election commissioner, though the latter is an appointee of the governor.

Charles L. Davidson, mayor of Wichita, was born near the little town of Cuba, N. Y., November 22, 1857. He came to Wichita in 1872, when a mere boy, and when the town was in its infancy, and it has been his home since. The first song he ever heard in Wichita was the night he arrived here, and on his way up town he passed near where a band of cowboys were singing their herd to sleep. He has lived to see the place where that herd lay at rest that night covered with great brick and stone business houses, and the broad prairies from which this herd came transformed into wheat and cotton and alfalfa fields. The song of the cowboy is forever hushed in Wichita, but the hum of a hundred factories and the stir of business make a music just as sweet if not as weird.

Mayor Davidson obtained a common-school education here in Wichita, after which he spent four years in the Kansas State University at Lawrence. He has been engaged in the real estate loan and insurance business for several years. Mr. Davidson was nearly six years a member of the city council, ten years he was city park commissioner, and he served one term in the Kansas legislature. He was the first president of the Wichita Chamber of Commerce and has done more than any other man to procure for Wichita equitable freight rates.

Mayor Davidson is the original insurgent in Kansas, for he is the man who started the "square deal" movement a few years ago that resulted in a declaration of independence from the domination of all combines in Kansas. His life as mayor has been a very busy one and he has advocated some of the biggest things for Wichita that have yet been undertaken. Among these has been the purchase of the water works system, elevated tracks, and a union depot for the railroad district.

WICHITA HAY MAN HAS BECOME "HAY KING OF KANSAS."

Speaking of noted Kansans, it will be in order to remark that Wichita has a modest young man, now thirty-three years of age, who is undoubtedly the hay king of the Sunflower State, and this is about the second time his name has ever been printed except in advertisements.

J. H. Turner. For the year ending the first of last January he bought and sold over 2,500 cars of hay, about 5 per cent of which was alfalfa. Mr. Turner came to this country from England sixteen years ago when he was seventeen years old. He went to the English colony at Runnymede and came from there to Wichita four years later. He thought America was a pretty good place and that Kansas must be the best place for a poor man. He managed to get a couple of teams and a hay press, and started in business on his own hook. He would buy hay of the farmers in the country and press it, haul it to the city with his teams and sell to the retailers. Turner was between two fires, as it were. The dealers in the city would tell the young hay dealer that they could buy hay cheaper from the farmers than he was asking, and the farmers would tell him that they could get more money for their hay in Wichita. He was compelled to do business

on a small margin. He worked hard and his labor counted for something when he came in competition with other dealers. Ten years ago the low lands on West Douglas avenue just west of the big bridge were not very valuable. The young hay dealer rented a room there and commenced to retail his hay to the people of the city. Nobody ever got a "plugged" bale of hay from J. H. Turner. He soon built up a large retail business. He bought the house and lot he had rented.

Mr. Turner prospered in his retail business. He would buy the grass on seven or eight thousand acres of land in the country. He would take his teams, harvest the hay, press and haul it to the city to supply his retail establishment. Finally he closed the retail house and went into the wholesaling of hay. He added coal and building material to his hay business, and now he owns six lots on the fine paved street where he first started in business, besides a long stretch of track property along the Missouri Pacific road. The hay king said yesterday that his business this year, of course, would depend on the size of the hay crop, but that indications are good for a big crop of hay and he expects his business this year to largely increase over last year, as it has grown every year since he started. Come on with your hay kings, not the commission men who handle hay for other people, but the men who own and sell the valuable stuff.

YANK OWEN.

By

THE EDITOR.

In the early days of Wichita, "Yank" Owen was a character. His real name was A. T. Owen; by courtesy the lawyers called him Major. He was always attached to some law office, and usually slept in this office and was a notary and all-around man in the office where he made his headquarters. In the early frontier days of Kansas, Yank had been clerk of the district court at Junction City. His acquaintance with old-time lawyers in Kansas was most extensive. Leaving Junction City when the town became too quiet for him, Yank came to Wichita and for many years was a most familiar figure upon the principal streets of the town. He was wont to discourse and orate on

Napoleonic history, and declaimed in stentorian tones from the speeches of Napoleon the First. He was well read on French history, and something of a reader on general topics. He acted often in the capacity of conveyancer, and his angular, long handwriting will be long remembered by the older members of the Sedgwick county bar. He usually wore a loose-fitting frock coat and a flaring blue cap. A grizzly mustache gave him a somewhat fierce and warlike appearance. He took a lively interest in all court matters, and upon the slightest provocation would swear like the army in Flanders. His excessive loyalty to Sedgwick county was a matter of general remark. On a bright spring day Yank was missed from his accustomed haunts. He had taken the train for the Pacific coast. He never returned. Later on, it was reported that he had died in San Francisco, Calif.

WILLIAM GREIFFENSTEIN, "THE FATHER OF WICHITA."

By

THE EDITOR.

William Greiffenstein, who was a mayor of the city and who was honored by election to the state legislature, had an interesting career. To the early fur traders he was known as "Dutch Bill." He was born at Frankfort-on-the-Main, in Germany, July 28, 1829. For three years he attended college at Darmstadt and was later employed in a commission house at Mentz, first coming to America in 1848. First he located at Hermann, Mo., later going to St. Louis and then to Westport. In 1850 he began trading with the Indians on the Shawnee reservation, then located six miles below what is now the city of Lawrence. He took a claim at Topeka in 1855, and in 1859 opened another trading post in western Kansas, bartering with the Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas, Comanches and Apaches. This post was on Walnut creek. Later he opened one on the Cowskin, about ten miles west of Wichita.

In 1867 he removed his trading post to the Kiowa and Comanche agency near Washita, below Fort Cobb. He married, in 1869, at Topeka, Miss Catherine Burnett, who was the daughter of Abram Burnett and Mary Knoffloch, a native of Germany. Abram Burnett was chief of the Pottawatomie Indians and a highly interesting man. The Indian chief weighed 465 pounds

and gloried in his great strength. Near him, at Topeka, also lived another heavyweight, named Young, who weighed about 400 pounds. The two big fellows called one another "Bud" and "Bub." Mrs. Greiffenstein's father was Bub. One Sunday, it is told, the two giants got into a dispute as to which was the stronger. Burnett challenged Young to lift the largest rock he could, and it is said that when he had lifted the biggest flagstone he could find the chief of the Pottawatomies then asked him to sit upon it and the 465-pounder lifted both rock and the 400-pounder together.

Abram Burnett was educated at the Carlisle Indian school at Carlisle, Pa., and was a close friend of Abraham Lincoln. There are many persons living in and near Wichita who have knowledge of the early history of Wichita which should be preserved for future reference. Mrs. Greiffenstein is now living at Burnett, Okla.; her brother, Christopher T. Pearce, is at Noble, Okla.; her son, Charles, is in business at Greenwich, Kan., and her son William is in business at Enid, Okla. Otto Weiss, who contributed much to the information for this story, is a well known manufacturer of Wichita. J. T. Holmes, who worked at the Greiffenstein ranch on the Washita, is in Wichita, and Phil Clark, who worked for "The Father of Wichita," on the Cowskin, is now in Oklahoma.

William Greiffenstein was a warm-hearted, generous man, and in Sedgwick county his freinds are legion. Time will do his memory justice, and posterity will perpetuate his many virtues.

DOC WORRALL.

By

THE EDITOR.

In the early eighties, when W. G. Hobbs was a justice of the peace and held court in Old Eagle Hall, where the Boston store now is, Doc Worrall was his constable. Doc regarded himself as an amateur detective. He posed as a "bad man from Bitter creek." He was especially handy as a boxer, quick as a cat, supple as a circus tumbler, and filled with frontier energy. Doc was a character, and his appearance was a circus. He weighed about 115 pounds, wore his hair long and flowing upon his collar, usually wore a red or blue flannel shirt with a wide collar open

at the neck, and seldom wore suspenders, as he regarded them as a badge of an effete eastern civilization. His shirt was laced up in front, and he wore his pants in his boots. And such boots; they were of the red top, lace top, narrow heel variety, usually affected by the cowboys. He usually wore a broad belt with a .44 and cartridges. Surmounting this all, was a jaunty, bell-crowned, broad-brimmed hat, and a rakish mustache, and you have an ink portrait of Doc Worrall, in the frontier days of Wichita. Doc was a good officer, and posed as a lightweight pugilist until Denver Ed Smith came along and dislocated his false front teeth, over at the old rink on West First street. Doc is now an honest farmer on a farm just west of Mulvane, Kansas.

THE PIONEER RURAL MAIL CARRIER.

W. L. Appling, of the Horton & Appling Real Estate Company, 520 East Douglas avenue, was one of the first rural mail carriers to carry mail from the Wichita postoffice. He was the first carrier to go over the thirty-one miles of route number 1, which included the northern part of the county. When Mr. Appling rode behind his span of young mules on that first day of October, 1900, he unknowingly was beginning a strenuous life. Here is his story as told to a reporter for "The Beacon":

"Remember my first trip? Well, I guess I do. I shall never forget it, I know. I had experiences on that day enough to last me the remainder of my lifetime. I felt rather smart when I crawled in behind my span of young mules, which I thought were the best in the country, for I was doing a government job which had never before been done in the state. It was a muddy day. In some places the roads were so deep in mud that even my trusty mules could hardly pull the buggy through. I started at 8 o'clock and thought I would be through by noon, for I had very little mail to carry. But there's where I got left. At every farmhouse I stopped the farmer would have to have a full explanation of the new system of the mail. Some of them couldn't see how the government was going to deliver mail free of charge without increasing the taxes. The idea of Uncle Sam sending them their mail without a cent of charge looked to some of them preposterous on the face of it. I remember the actions of one farmer for whom I had mail.

"His house was a short distance from the school, and as I

was going past there at the noon dismissal I gave the letter to one of his children, whom I saw coming out of the school. The farmer saw me do it and nearly broke down a barb wire fence in getting to my buggy. 'Hey, there, Appling,' he cried, angrily, 'don't you give that mail to any boy of mine. I won't take it.' I tried to quiet him and told him the old story of Uncle Sam's goodness, but he would have none of it. He kept on insisting that the government couldn't possibly do such an unheard of thing without going into bankruptcy. He declared up and down that it was a political scheme of the Republicans to get more taxes from the people. He was a Democrat, by the way, and in spite of all the figures and statements made by the postoffice officials, I couldn't make him believe that there was anything fair in the deal. He didn't take his mail, either. He went to the postmaster later, I was told, and told him that he didn't want his mail sent out by a rural carrier. I never delivered any more mail to him."

Note.—Gen. W. L. Appling is now the quartermaster general of the Department of Kansas, and very deservedly prominent in political and Grand Army circles.—Editor.

THE OLDEST MAIL CARRIER IN WICHITA.

The oldest carrier in the service of the Wichita postoffice department is George Chouteau, who lives at 316 North Emporia avenue. For twenty-five years he has been blowing a whistle, handing out an anticipated letter and making everyone feel better. During this bi-decade and a half the days he has missed handing out a message could be counted on both hands. He is well up in years now, but manages to cover his route as easily as the younger men. He became a city mail carrier October 18, 1885. When he started out on his run through the south part of town George Chouteau didn't find pavements, street cars, or motor cars. He rode a "nag." Delivering mail in the South End then was like going on a day's journey. He took all day to it. Leaving the Garfield Hall on West First street, where the postoffice then was, early in the morning, he sometimes would not get in until the roosters began to welcome midnight. He says that carrying mail now is something of a snap to what it was twenty-five years ago.

Another old-timer, and one of the originals, is E. B. Walden.

He isn't a carrier now, being superintendent of them, but he made his debut in Uncle Sam's ranks as a carrier. Mr. Walden rode a horse, also. He had a part of the South End of Wichita and a part of the North End. In speaking of those times, he said, the other day: "Conditions then were very different from what they are now. For one thing, the houses didn't have any numbers. We didn't mind this, for we soon learned the names of the people who lived in houses and we picked out the owners of the letters by the house, instead of the number on the house. Then, too, there were plenty of streets, in fact, too many, but there were no names on them. It is difficult enough to deliver mail when you have the street and the street number, but you can imagine what it was like to deliver mail—and lots of it—when you didn't know the address of the party. Many a time I have had to read the addresses on an envelope by the light of a blinker. In those days a blinker was a great thing for Wichita, and there was sort of a novelty in doing this. All of us were detectives. We had to run down the people. Even the people didn't know their whereabouts, and after the list of names was made out I found that several thought they were living on Meade avenue, when they really lived on Washington. In the South End it was sparsely settled. When I first went out with my saddle bags filled with mail and a loud whistle, people didn't know what to make of me. I didn't think I looked formidable, but this little incident, which I remember very well, will show that I did, at least to some persons.

"Late one Saturday afternoon I came to a street away down in the South End. I can't recall the name of it now, but it had very few houses on it. I had a letter addressed to a woman whose house I knew. As I rode up I saw her sitting in the window. I waved a letter so she could see it and expected her to come out to the curb to receive it. But, do you know, she didn't budge? I whistled as loudly as I could, but still she didn't move. It was against our orders to take the mail to the door, so I rode away carrying the letter. Next day I went by there and whistled. You ought to have seen her rush out and take that letter. Residents in that section afterwards told me that she thought I was a policeman when I drove up the first time, and she was afraid to go out. That may seem funny to you, but the other fellows on the line had the same trouble. I am sure we were as placid-appearing a bunch of men as could be found in the city, and to think we were taken

for desperadoes, when we were working for the government! This was a standing joke among us for several months."

Orsemus Hills Bentley, the editor-in-chief of this work, is a native of the state of New York, having been raised upon a farm in Wyoming county, of the Empire State. He is the son of Gideon Bentley and Emma Hickox McClenthen, both natives of Onondaga county, in central New York. At an early age the parents of Mr. Bentley went West, as it was called in those days, and settled upon a farm at Arcade, near the city of Buffalo. Here Mr. Bentley spent his boyhood and was a student of Arcade Academy, one of the best schools in that portion of New York state. At eighteen, Mr. Bentley began teaching school, which avocation he followed for two years. At the end of that period he took up the study of law in Arcade, Buffalo and Cleveland, and was admitted to the bar at Columbus, Ohio. He was married to Flora X. Harris, in Cleveland, and soon after, and in the year 1880, he settled in Wichita. For more than thirty years he has been a resident of Sedgwick county. While devoting his time principally to the law, his activities have gone into other lines. Railroad building, farming, ranching, the raising of Hereford cattle, and Poland-China hogs have engaged his attention. He owns a fine ranch in Kingman county at this time, which is well stocked with pure-blood cattle. He was the promoter and principal builder of the Kansas Midland Railway, from Wichita to Ellsworth, and has assisted in promoting other railway enterprises. He has figured in many notable law suits in Kansas, among others, the Fairchild murder case, in Harper county; the Nutting murder case in Sumner county, and the Carter-Lane case in Sedgwick county. Mr. Bentley served in three sessions of the Kansas legislature as state senator from the 29th senatorial district. He is one of the best Spanish scholars in this portion of Kansas, reading, writing and speaking this language like a native. Senator Bentley has a distinct literary turn, is a great reader, having literary taste of a high order. He has written much, worked on newspapers, and is a ready public speaker, being in great demand in political campaigns. During his residence in Kansas Senator Bentley has taken an active part in all of the state and local campaigns for the Republican ticket. His acquaintance is state wide.

In his business he has acquired a competency, and he has just sold the tenth house which he has built in Wichita. He has been

at the head of the following well known law firms in Wichita: O. H. and J. C. Bentley; Bentley, Hatfield & Bentley, and Bentley & Hatfield. For more than a quarter of a century he has been associated in business with the Hon. Rodolph Hatfield, one of the distinguished lawyers of Sedgwick county. Senator Bentley is a thirty-third degree Mason, and has traveled extensively in this country, and has lately taken a long trip to Panama and South America.

Senator Bentley's energy, literary taste, social and business standing, his wonderful acquaintance and familiarity with Sedgwick county and Kansas is amply reflected in this history of Sedgwick county.—By a Lawyer Friend.

W. R. Stubbs, governor, was born November 7, 1858, at Richmond, Ind. While an infant, he was taken to Iowa, and remained there until he was twelve years of age. He then came to Hesper, Kansas, with his parents, and began work for Samuel Davis at 50 cents a day. He went to school in the winter and got a limited education, which he improved later on when his circumstances became better by going for a year or two to the university.

At the age of twenty-two he bought a span of mules and went to work on the grade of a railroad then building, and remained in that work until about 1903, when he had as high as 5,000 men working for him.

About that time his neighbors drafted him for the legislature. He was then forty-six years of age, and had never been into a township or county caucus or convention. Since entering public life a few years ago he has been a member of the legislature, speaker of the house, state chairman of the Republican party, and is now governor. This is his history in brief.

Note.—In a county history so complete as this we have thought proper to give a place to the chief executive of this great state, who has always been a consistent friend of Sedgwick county and whose relatives largely reside upon our southern border. The sketch of the governor was prepared by his secretary, David D. Leahey, one of the best newspaper men of Kansas.—Editor.

THE BENEFACTIONS OF TOM SHAW.

Tom Shaw runs a music store on North Main street in Wichita. He is a modest man, little given to show. Some years ago, he inaugurated the plan of serving a Thanksgiving Newsboy's dinner in this city. He does this all by himself and never makes any fuss about it. Each Thanksgiving day he gathers up about 100 newsboys in this city, and marches them to some good eating house, where he proceeds to fill them up with a good turkey dinner. He makes no distinction between the blacks and the whites, it matters not how poor they are, how ragged or unkempt, he marshals the line and marches along Douglas avenue, and reaching the dining hall they do the rest.

Tom Shaw has no imitators and no one envies him the place he holds in the affections of hundreds of men, who were formerly newsboys and the recipients of his bounty.

His methods are unique, and he does things in his own way; no fulsome advertising, no fuss or feathers, he simply marches with the boys and feeds them with a lavish hand. In his simple benefaction his neighbors respect him, and the boys love him. Their parents swear by him, and the world is better off for such men whose gifts are so modest and unobtrusive.—Editor.

MRS. L. S. CARTER.

By

ELBERT HUBBARD.

I've been out to Wichita giving a lecture for Mrs. Carter, and again I stand with hat in hand, out of admiration for a beautiful life well lived. My awe is not alone for a woman who can make money out of one of my amusing lectures, but it is out of respect for certain sterling qualities which some day will become universal and cease to be the exception.

Mrs. Carter turned her eightieth birthday some years ago, and has asked her friends to forget it. She is well, happy, active and takes a highly intelligent interest in the world's events. She is going to school. She believes in manual training, cremation, deep breathing, and hold that President Roosevelt is only in process—that he is not yet completed—otherwise he would not be tepid on equal suffrage and violent in all else. Mrs.

Carter says she expects to see grammar kiboshed in every public school. She wants children taught to draw, model in clay, paint, sing, and says they ought to get acquainted with bees, birds, butterflies and know all the flowers and trees by name.

Mrs. Carter wore a new white satin gown that she had bought in honor of my coming. She looks like Mary Baker Eddy, and probably knew it. She had arranged the stage-setting as a library scene—looking after every detail, even to a bunch of White Hyacinths on the table, and a spray of the same for the lapel of my Prince Albert.

Mrs. Carter has not a living kinsman nearer than a second cousin in the world, therefore she chooses her friends. Certainly she has cause for gratitude. All of Wichita is her family. The woosack and the ermine do not overawe her, much less "the cloth," which she declares is for the most part shoddy. She says that in order to be poor in Kansas, you have to waste an awful lot of time and money. Mrs. Carter holds that a woman is as good as a man, if not better, and yet she does not urge that woman should make all the laws for man nor attribute the world's damnation to him, beside. She keeps a woman stenographer and a man-of-all-work. She makes at least five thousand dollars a year, and gives most of it away in educating girls to lives of usefulness.

In twenty years Mrs. Carter has sold over half a million dollars' worth of books to Kansas and mostly full sets of finely bound books, too. She showed me a letter from Houghton, Mifflin & Company, wherein they said that hers was the first order for a full set of Emerson that came to them from Kansas.

Her own library cost her ten thousand dollars, and she has given it to Fairmont College at Wichita, a school for girls, conducted under the auspices of the Congregational Church. And lookee, neighbor, this library contains full sets of Tom Paine, Voltaire and Ingersoll. Wichita does not fletcherize the lint when a good thing is offered.

So here is a woman, born in Vermont, transported to the prairies, reaching out for the last lap of the century run, whose mind is vigorous, alert, active, appreciative, and who is never ill, but works ten hours or more a day, who delights in New Thought and Free Thought, and has no quarrel either with God or His children. Isn't it beautiful?

MRS CARTER'S BIRTHDAY.

Today is Mrs. L. S. Carter's birthday. She is 82 years old, or to be more explicit, 82 years young, as any one who knows her would testify. Friday was Mr. Fred Smyth's 52nd birthday, and Junior Smyth is 19 years old today. The three of them celebrated their birthdays together and had a regular birthday feast at the Smyth home on North Topeka avenue.

Mrs. Carter has completed another year of usefulness. She is as energetic as ever and doesn't even consider that she needs a vacation this warm weather. In the summer time she always wears white to please her friends, she says, as they absolutely insist upon it. While in her heart she would rather wear something just a little bit darker, as laundry bills take a lot of money that could be used where Mrs. Carter thinks it is needed more. The only ornament that she ever wears is her Daughters of the American Revolution pin.

Mrs. Carter resides in the Ferrell flats on East Second street. She has four rooms and a bath, but she has decided that four rooms are too many for her so she is going to rent two of the rooms. Her office is in the Michigan building and is one of the prettiest in the city. It is finished in buff, has awnings at the windows, a marble wash stand, an electric fan and other conveniences. Mr. O. D. Barnes, who is the owner of the building, has given the room to Mrs. Carter for the rest of her life. Since 1904 her office has been in the Winne building. When the new Barnes building was completed Mr. Barnes told Mrs. Carter that she was to have a room in it for life. Mrs. Carter thought he was joking and didn't accept, although he repeated the offer several times. When the new Michigan building was completed Mr. Barnes simply wouldn't take "No" for an answer and Mrs. Carter was installed in a room that was many times an improvement on her old one. She is quite enthusiastic about Mr. Barnes, and says that every one should take off their hat to him.

Since her last birthday she has put eleven hundred and seventy-five dollars worth of steel furniture in the new Carnegie library. Year before last she donated her own library, which is valued at \$8,000 to the college. This year she gave to the Y. W. C. A. 25 volumes of a de luxe edition of Walter Scott; 40 volumes of little classics; 6 volumes of Victor Hugo, five yearly subscriptions to magazines, and enough other books to fill a bookcase.

The Fairmount "down town" studio was furnished recently by Mrs. Carter. Fairmount is not the only thing that is benefited by the generosity of Mrs. Carter. She helps lots of other things and persons that are never heard of. She received lots of presents today—among them a case of mineral water that had no name signed.

One thousand two hundred dollars to the Children's Home, put in three metal drinking fountains, two for horses, one for men.—Daily Beacon, July 11, 1910.

KOS HARRIS.

Kos Harris, whose writings adorn many pages of the history of Sedgwick county, is a unique character of Wichita and a versatile and well known writer in Kansas. He is a distinguished lawyer of Wichita, where he has practiced since the early 70's. Kos has acquired a competency, and as he says himself, he can now keep the wolf from the door. He is a town booster and a town builder. He has been active in railway and other building. He has been a most successful practicing lawyer at the bar of Sedgwick county and he possesses so much good humor that it is a delight to do business with him. At one time, when Kos Harris was building his present office building on South Main street in Wichita, he received a letter addressed to Mr. Kozarris. This name amused him so that he at once named his building the Kozarris building, putting that name on the front in bold letters, and since that time this building has been known as the Kozarris building, and so it will remain to the end of the chapter. This incident is characteristic of the man whose whole life has an undercurrent of quiet humor. Kos enjoys life to the limit and while a careful, painstaking lawyer, and a dangerous antagonist in a law-suit, after the battle is over he is a friend of all parties, and his good nature and good humor smoothes away all of the rough edges and animosities of the litigation. I wish that there were more men in Wichita like Kos Harris, light-hearted, witty and entertaining; loyal to his friends, and forgiving to his enemies.—Editor.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

SOME PROMINENT BUILDINGS IN WICHITA.

The city and the public utility-corporations are going to make extensive improvements during the present year, but they will not be far ahead of the individuals and private corporations of the city. The indications are this will be the biggest year in the private building line in the history of Wichita. No less than \$2,000,000 is to be spent in buildings, aside from those which "The Beacon" mentioned earlier this week. This is assured at the present time, though the year is but little more than one month old. It will not be surprising if this amount is more than doubled before the end of the year.

Following is a list of most of the business buildings for which contracts have been let or upon which work has been commenced since the first of January, 1910:

Beacon building, South Main street, 75x140, ten stories and basement, cost \$350,000; Schweiter building, corner Douglas and Main, 70x136, eight stories and basement, cost \$275,000; Butts building, 100x140, corner First and Lawrence, six stories and basement, cost \$125,000; Commercial Club building, First and Market, 50x140, five stories, cost \$62,000; J. F. Hollicke, motor car building, North Topeka, 50x140, three stories, cost \$35,000; Catholic cathedral, cost \$200,000; First Methodist church, cost \$100,000; First Presbyterian church, cost \$100,000; Grace Presbyterian church, cost \$20,000; O. C. Daisy, South Topeka avenue, 50x160, three stories, cost \$30,000; L. F. Means, West Douglas, 50x130, two stories, cost \$12,000; Roy Reeves, West Douglas, 25x100, two stories, cost \$8,000; John Wentzel, corner Pine and Main, two-story brick, cost \$8,000; W. H. Fitch, North Main, three-story brick, cost \$8,000; Jott & Wood, addition, Santa Fe tracks, cost \$25,000; A. S. Parks, building for International Harvester Company, cost \$100,000; Western Planing Mill, St. Francis, 30x62, two stories, cost \$7,000; J. F. Hollicke, 1219 East Douglas, 25x72, two-story, cost \$6,500; Stewart & Burns, garage, North Lawrence, 95x

140, cost \$12,000; W. H. Gaiser, St. Francis, 42x125, two stories, cost \$10,000; H. D. Cottman, East Douglas, 25x100, two-story, cost \$8,000; Mrs. Emma Cox, South Market, 25x140, two stories, cost \$12,000; Metz Lumber Company, North Main, 40x140, two stories, cost \$20,000; Carey Hotel addition, \$50,000; L. W. Clapp, 25x100, two stories, \$5,000; W. S. Brown, two-story, 25x140, cost \$12,000; People's Ice Company, Fifteenth and Santa Fe, 30x150, two stories, cost \$35,000; C. A. Preston, North Market, two-story flat, 50x140, cost \$16,000; W. O. Truesdale, addition North Rock Island, cost \$15,000; Mrs. Mary Dotson, Main and Lewis, two-story flat, cost \$20,000. The total cost of these buildings is \$1,682,500.

Last year there were 1,400 dwellings built in Wichita, and it is safe to predict at least 1,500 will be built this year. At the average cost of \$2,000, which is very conservative, these dwellings would aggregate \$300,000. This amount, added to the sum that will be paid for the business buildings already contracted for, makes certain the expenditure of, approximately, \$2,000,000, to say nothing of the buildings which may hereafter be contracted for during the year. The new high school will cost \$150,000, and "The Beacon" neglected to include it in the list of public buildings published a few days ago. After leaving it out, the improvements of a public nature, by the city itself and the public utility corporations, amounted to over \$5,000,000. A million of this vast sum to be expended in 1910 will be spent for paving. The public and private improvements during the present year will total more than \$7,000,000.

NEW BUILDINGS WORTH TWO MILLIONS IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1910.

The building of large cities was ever attended by romance. The hero of this modern age is he who dares to build something larger, broader, grander, than anything of the sort of a previous age or period. Man's mission in the world is to create, to construct. Every man of consequence has a longing to do something bigger and better than any other man has done it. And that is the way of Wichita in her building. Her citizens are filled with ideals of a larger, more beautiful, more firmly grounded city. The working out of these ideals forms the romance of building

the greatest city of the greatest state in the Union—Wichita, of Kansas.

Perfection in anything is rare. The struggle for perfection is one of man's rarest virtues. The struggle for civic perfection is more rare and more worthy of large reward. In the building of a city there is more than the mere shaping of materials into buildings of four, six, or ten stories height. There are beauty and symmetry and safety to be considered. In Wichita all are taken into consideration. The time for throwing up flimsy structures for the service of a few years has passed. The builders of modern Wichita are grounding their foundations deeply, reinforcing their superstructures solidly and finishing interiors and exteriors simply and beautifully. Not only beautifully and solidly does Wichita build, but rapidly. Once determined upon building a Wichitan goes about his task with alacrity. Hundreds are constantly imbued with the spirit, and they, with their unending activities, have made the city famous as the fastest growing urban community in the state.

The year 1910 will go down in history as a wonderful twelve-month of building. The chronicle will read like a romantic tale of twelve chapters, each filled with the vigorous interest of human achievement as applied to architecture. In the year 1909 over four millions of dollars were expended for new homes and new business blocks in this city. That was a remarkable record, and it was heralded to the four winds. Yet still greater things are happening in this year of 1910. Specifically, the 1909 building record was \$2,658,760 for the erection of new homes, more than a thousand of which were builded. For business structures, \$1,414,900 was expended. For public buildings, additions and barns more than \$400,000 was spent.

At the opening of the present year building operations started off with a bound. In one day the fire marshal's office issued permits for the construction of more than half a million dollars' worth of business blocks. At the end of the first month the total was close to three-quarters of a million. February was a short month, filled with bad weather. Building operations were light for that reason. At that, however, buildings to cost more than \$100,000 were commenced. March made for itself a record that probably will stand for some years. In all, 183 buildings of all sorts were started. In the fire marshal's permit book they were

scheduled to cost \$670,000. April came forward with 152 permits, for a total of \$460,000.

The figures for the first four months of the year are:

Month.	No. Permits.	Cost.
January	91	\$ 735,075
February	79	100,570
March	183	669,280
April	152	457,551
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Total	505	\$1,962,476

These permits and amounts were classified as follows: Residences, 400 permits for \$756,951; business houses, 46 permits for \$1,080,950; churches, one permit for \$100,000; barns and additions, 58 permits for \$25,575. Some idea of the speed with which Wichita is growing may be gained from a comparison of figures. In April of 1908, 41 permits were issued for buildings to cost \$73,500. During the following April the number of permits leaped to 162 and the amount to \$309,000. April, of 1910, established a new record of 184 permits for a total of \$457,551. Foremost among the new buildings of this year stands the new Beacon block. This huge monolith of concrete and steel will be the first ten-story building in the city. Construction work was started in February, and at the present time the ninth floor is being completed. In nine months from the date of beginning the building will be completed and occupied by The Beacon Publishing Company. The structure is costing \$300,000.

The second sky-scraper to be erected in this city will be started June 1. The site at the corner of Main street and Douglas avenue is now being cleared for this new Schweiter block. Another \$300,000 is being invested in this modern office structure. Other substantial buildings in the business district are: Butts building, six stories high; the Michigan building, seven stories; Commercial Club home, of five stories; new theater, to cost \$100,000; new auditorium, to cost \$150,000, and scores of smaller structures. At the stock yards \$500,000 is being expended for the enlargement of the packing plants and the yard facilities. A new \$50,000 exchange building has just been completed. In the wholesale district several substantial structures have been started or completed. Among these are two large wholesale

grocery houses and a six-story warehouse for a steamfitting supply house.

"THE MATHEWSON."

Mrs. Grant Bradshaw Hatfield has sent "The Beacon" a very interesting communication, in which she urges the adoption of "The Mathewson" as an appropriate name for the new auditorium. Some of the points covered by Mrs. Hatfield's letter are given below:

"I desire to propose the name, 'The Mathewson,' for the new Wichita auditorium which is now being built.

"The subject of this sketch is the Father, Founder, Scout, Frontiersman and only original 'Buffalo Bill.' Mr. Mathewson's prophetic eyes were the first to see the possibilities of building a great city here. He came to the site of Wichita when there was nothing here but barren prairie. He remained, to suffer all the hardships of frontier life, and is still active in supporting the progressive policy of the city.

"I think it would be an appropriate acknowledgment of his service to the city if the mayor and city commissioners should decide to use Mr. Mathewson's name for the auditorium, which is to be the most imposing building of its kind in the Southwest. Mr. Mathewson has personal knowledge of more Wichita history than any other living man. As an agent of the general government he arranged the first treaty ever made with the Indians in this particular territory. That was in 1867, and for many years thereafter he remained the friend and protector of every white resident of the territory.

"The title of 'Buffalo Bill' did not come to him merely because of his skill as hunter, but was given him by a grateful people who were indebted to him for their lives. During the early history the colony here was prevented from securing food by the savages, who continually guarded the camp. William Mathewson braved the dangers of a venture upon the plains, killed scores of buffalo from the grazing herds, and with the aid of a few other members of the colony managed to transport the animals to the starving people at the camp and the surrounding country. Another evidence of his bravery and service to the early settlers was his rescue of two little girls, who were the only survivors of a family raided by a band of Kiowa Indians. These girls were taken to Washington and a congressional appropriation secured for their

education. Through all the struggles incident to pioneer life, Mr. Mathewson never was known to withhold a helping hand from a needy individual who was worthy, and for fifty years he has worked and talked and sacrificed to help make Wichita a great city. I hope all the friends of Mr. Mathewson in the city will urge the mayor and the city commissioners to name the new auditorium 'The Mathewson.' "

SKETCH OF MR. MATHEWSON.

Mr. Mathewson is of tall and commanding figure: six feet and one-half inches in height; noted for his great strength and wonderful power of endurance; forehead broad and of medium height; features distinctly marked, without angularity; blue eyes and formerly dark hair and complexion; modest in his demeanor, he abstains from all boasting; retiring in his disposition, he avoids publicity, preferring the quiet and seclusion of private life. Positive in his character, calm and self-possessed in the moment of danger; energetic and persevering. He is a bright example of that class of men who opened the country to the demands of civilization.

The same patriotic blood trickles the veins of every American. Then, citizens of Wichita, why not execute your loyalty by placing some token of appreciation in memory of this brave living frontiersman, who so nobly withstood all privation of such life and which now stands as the result of our Peerless Princess, of which we are each and everyone so proud, and christen the spacious assembly hall or auditorium now under discussion "The Mathewson," as a reminder to our progeny and a tribute of our appreciation.

Note.—William Mathewson was the original "Buffalo Bill," and was employed for a long time in furnishing buffalo meat to General Sheridan's army. Wichita was for years General Sheridan's headquarters.—Editor.

THE INTERESTING ROMANCE OF WICHITA'S FIRST SKYSCRAPER.

The new Beacon building, which has excited widespread comment as the first skyscraper ever erected in Kansas, will house 1,000 people daily. The work which will engage these people will cover nearly every field of human labor. In the first place,

the building requires its own corps of servants, twenty in all. At the head of these is the manager, John H. Graham, who has in charge the complex machinery of the little city. In addition to the manager, an engineer, an electrician, a house carpenter, five elevator men and twelve janitors and scrub women will help to oil the wheels each day. One hundred stenographers will remove their hats, tenderly finger their "puffs" and powder their noses in this building every morning. And a vast crowd of professional men, business men, sightseers and agents will keep the four elevators working constantly. It is estimated that 10,000 persons will visit the building on business every day. During the lunch hour from 150 to 200 business men will lunch on the tenth floor in the restaurant of the Chamber of Commerce, an organization comprised of 400 of the foremost of Wichita business men. The view from the roof of a skyscraper is like a glimpse into wonderland itself. Thirty-five miles in any direction on a clear day is a view worth climbing a mountain to see, though even here the tall building offers a superior inducement by carrying us up in an elevator. Looking down at the street one marvels at the little street cars crawling along the narrow pavements. The diminutive horses drawing toy wagons, and the pigmy men and women threading their way between the traffic. Away to the south flows the Arkansas river, partially veiled in the smoke of a September haze. If your eyesight is good you can count ten bridges spanning it. Just this side of the river lies a broad field of brightest green, plentifully streaked with yellow. Golden rod or field daisies growing on some golf course probably. There is Friends University off in the west, and just this side of it, in our panorama, the Orient shops. That white croquet wicket is the entrance to Wonderland Park. There is the race track in plain view. A person armed with binoculars could easily follow the races from here. Another point in favor of our skyscraper. A grandstand on the roof from which the inhabitants of the model city can watch any race or ball game within a radius of five miles. So we follow the parapet around its four sides, viewing in turn the Little Arkansas, the packing houses in the north, Riverside Park and Fairmount College, all walled in and partially buried by trees. Trees! The eye grows dizzy trying to separate and count them, a forest of green lightly brushed over with autumn red.

Part of the eleventh floor is given over to the machinery of the

four automatic elevators. A 110-volt motor operates a 10-volt generator, while the public rides. The elevators run from 7 in the morning till 7 at night. Two of them are worked for two hours longer and one runs all night and furnishes service on Sundays. Almost the entire tenth floor has been designed for the Chamber of Commerce. There is a game room, which can be closed off, a main reception hall, a main dining room, a private reception hall and dining room, a serving room and kitchen. The kitchen is on the eleventh floor and two dumb waiters will carry food and dishes between it and the serving room. The rest of the tenth floor will be devoted to the Boyle Commission Company and the Interurban offices. An interesting feature of the eighth floor is the office of the Paper Mills. The mills are being erected now in West Wichita, and will be directed from the Beacon building. The Natural Gas Company will have its offices on the seventh floor, while on the second, a cigar store will be established. A bank and a drug store, for which quarters will be provided on the first floor, will complete the industry list of the two-acre city, with the exception, of course, of its daily paper.

The editorial offices and composing room of the Wichita Daily Beacon will occupy the front half of the second story. Two Associated Press cables which are being installed will carry the news of the world into the building. The counting room is the southwest corner of the main floor, with the pressroom back of it, where the new sextuple press, which is to strike off the first copies of "The Beacon" printed in its new home, is being installed. When the freshly printed papers come off the press they go through a chute into the basement, where they are received on tables prepared for them and distributed to the newsboys and mailing agents. In the basement are two boilers of 100-horsepower each, which will heat the entire building. Another smaller boiler will provide warm water for the lavatories. Two vacuum cleaners have been installed, which will clean every office every night. Vacuum cleaners are worked by means of compressed air. The compressing of the air leaves a vacuum in the tubes, which creates a suction. So the dust is drawn into the tubes and falls into dust boxes prepared for it. Another clever invention which is being installed is the "air washer," designed to ventilate the basement and other rooms having no outside ventilation. The outdoor air is received into the basement, where it is purified by passing through a miniature rainstorm. It is then fanned into the un-

ventilated rooms by means of revolving fans. Not less than 12,000 cubic feet of air per minute must flow through the water to keep the air in these rooms pure. An electric switchboard, 20 feet long and 10 feet high, controls the lighting.

The Beacon building was erected by a stock company at a cost of \$350,000. Shares of this stock, which sell for \$50.00, have been bought in amounts varying from \$50 to \$10,000. Several children have bought one share apiece. At the present time only about \$30,000 worth remains unsold. The first actual money received for Beacon building stock was a check for \$1,000, received from Charles Waterschied.

BRIGHT LIGHTS AND MARBLE.

Some interesting facts about this skyscraper are that it takes 1,500 incandescent bulbs to light it, that the Italian marble wainscotings with Kentucky marble bases costs \$20,000, and that there are 75,000 square feet, or a little less than two acres of floor space in the building. The structure contains 600 windows, which the Beacon Building Company have provided with Holland shades at a cost of over \$500. The half-acre of glass in these windows was furnished by the Mississippi Glass Company. In addition to the other conveniences of the model city, any member of it may drop a letter in one of the boxes to be found on each floor, and it will be carried to the mailing department in the basement. The consent of the government is to be obtained to widen to a 40-foot street the alley east of the building, which adjoins the postoffice. The telegraph poles will be taken down, the wires put underground and the street paved with asphalt. Richards, McCarty & Bulford, of Columbus, Ohio, are the architects of the Beacon building. The building contract was let to Selden & Breck, of St. Louis, on the 29th of last December. Actual work commenced the first week in January, and since that time 200 laborers have been given steady employment, while at times as many as 300 men have been at work. Perhaps nothing in connection with the new building suggests so vividly the growth of the "Wichita Beacon" from a country weekly to a great city daily as the story of the man who is writing the signs for the new building. Thirty-four years ago this man, R. D. Bordeaux, painted the first sign "The Beacon" ever had. He took the design, a beacon-lighted tower, from an old geography, and received his pay for the work

in weekly papers. Today Mr. Bordeaux, now an older man, has the very considerable contract for writing all the door signs to be used in the new building, while the beacon tower—his work of thirty-four years ago, is to be commemorated in a stone tower 60 feet high, bearing a revolving searchlight, which will flash for miles across the surrounding country. What would you think of a village of a thousand people, containing as residents twenty-five doctors, fifteen lawyers, ten real estate agents, fifteen wholesale lumber dealers, fifteen life insurance agents and ten fire insurance agents, three wholesale jewelers and ten or fifteen first-class dentists, besides the employes of a bank, a drug store and a daily newspaper with a circulation of over twenty-one thousand papers?

BRIEF HISTORY OF BEACON BLOCK.

By

HENRY J. ALLEN.

A painless dentist, whose name shall be unknown, started the magnificent \$380,000 building to which "The Beacon" is just moving. This dentist was from Kansas City, and he came to "The Beacon" one day to make an advertising contract, so that he might pull many teeth without pain in this beautiful city. After making his contract, of some considerable dollars, he said he'd go out and engage his rooms and be back soon. He came back three hours later and said he couldn't get an office in town and would therefore have to stay away, as he couldn't extract teeth without pain in the open streets.

A great financier once said that the way to make money was to discover some human need which had not been supplied, and supply it at so much per. The Beacon building was erected to supply a human need. The statement that a man couldn't rent a suite of offices in Wichita was given grave consideration. Investigation developed the fact that at all the office buildings there was a waiting list and that the business growth of the city was being retarded by a lack of suitable offices for new firms. Nothing is so important to the development of a city into a great business center as that it shall have suitably equipped office buildings. The enterprising people of this city realized this fact. "The Beacon" bought a year ago last May for \$39,000 the lots where

The Beacon building now stands, and began the organization of a stock company of \$350,000 to put up a ten-story building. Actual work on the building was started January 6, by the Selden-Breck Construction Company, of St. Louis. The progress of the work, under the splendid management of Mr. McDonald, the resident superintendent of this firm, has broken all building records in Kansas. The building has practically been completed in nine months. The cost of the building and grounds will be about \$380,000. The original estimate was \$350,000, but the directors decided to add several expensive equipments, not originally figured, such as marble wainscoting, wardrobes in each suite of rooms, vacuum cleaning, artificial ventilation, a refrigerating plant for the delivery of drinking water in the corridors, and other items to make the building absolutely modern.

The architects of the building, Richards, McCarty & Bulford, of Columbus, Ohio, had just finished the splendid newspaper building for the Columbus "Dispatch," so that "The Beacon" was fortunate in receiving the benefit of many special investigations made for the "Dispatch." The Beacon building is fire proof, made of steel and concrete, with a brick and terra cotta exterior. Its wood trim is quarter-sawed oak, with the exception of the first floor, which is finished in real mahogany. The corridors are all finished in Italian marble and tile. The elevator equipment is the best contained in any building of equal size in the Middle West. Four rapid electric traction elevators supply the passenger service. These are the latest type made by the Otis Elevator Company and cost \$6,000 each. They run at the rate of 350 feet per minute, and each of the four elevators is operated by a separate 50-horsepower motor, so that the disabling of one machine would not affect the other elevators. When fully occupied The Beacon building will have practically 1,000 tenants. This means that 1,000 business men, lawyers, doctors, stenographers, clerks and bookkeepers will hang up their hats and go to work in the building every week day morning. In addition to this, the Chamber of Commerce will have several hundred visitors a day to their beautiful club rooms on the tenth floor. The only element of uncertainty in the success of an office building is in this speculation: "Can it be rented?" This problem was solved early in the case of The Beacon building. There are signed up leases at this time sufficient to occupy over 65 per cent of all the rental space. This is a remarkable record with

which to open a building, and doubtless means that by January 1, at the very longest, every office in the building will be leased. This building when fully leased will bring over \$74,000 per annum; the cost of maintenance will be \$25,000, leaving a net earning of \$49,000 on \$380,000.

THE SCHWEITER BLOCK.

On the corner of Main and Douglas avenue, in the city of Wichita, the best business corner in Wichita, and the best in Kansas, Henry Schweiter, an old resident of this great county of Sedgwick, single-handed and alone, is erecting a magnificent ten-story building, a credit to the city and a monument to the sagacity, thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is one of the best known and much respected citizens of Wichita. Coming to Wichita comparatively poor, in an early day in the history of the city and county, Mr. Schweiter bore with patience and fortitude all of the ills and hardships of the early pioneers. By his toil and careful attention to business, he, with his good wife, who always toiled by his side, amassed a fortune. Reared in a sturdy mold, schooled in honesty from his youth, Henry Schweiter now sees the fruition of his hopes in the magnificent building which is going rapidly skyward. Long after the readers of this volume and the enterprising builder of the Schweiter Block shall have crumbled to the dust, this magnificent building, in the very business heart of Wichita, shall stand as a proud monument to the sagacity and business ability of Henry Schweiter. Many a younger man in Wichita would hesitate a long time before hazarding his entire fortune in so large an enterprise. Not so with Henry Schweiter; with a courage that never falters, and a faith in Wichita and its magnificent county which has characterized all of his life, he moves forward in this great building. The building is a great mass of concrete, steel, brick and terra cotta. It augurs well for the future; it is the culmination of a careful, sane, safe judgment which has always guided this man.

“His head is silvered o’er with age,
And long experience makes him sage.”

—Editor.

WICHITA'S FORUM.

Wichita's splendid Forum, the largest public assembly building in Kansas, is fast nearing completion. The outer side walls are all completed, and work is progressing rapidly on the roof. It is no idle boast when it is said that this building will be the finest and most up-to-date convention building in Kansas. Some idea of the size of this magnificent building may be gained from the following figures, taken from the plans: It is 260 feet long. It is 160 feet wide. The front will be 55 feet high. The rear will be 80 feet high. The arena will be 150 feet long. It will be 80 feet wide. Combined seating capacity, 8,000. It will have a stage 60 feet long, fully equipped with scenery. It will be fireproof, everything about it being brick, steel and cement. It can be used for motor car or horse shows. It will be suitable for lectures and concerts. It was designed by Richards, McCarty & Bulford, of Columbus, O. Constructed by Dieter & Wenzel, of Wichita. The building, exclusive of stage fittings, will cost \$150,000. It is being built by the city of Wichita, for the people of Kansas and Oklahoma. This beautiful structure will be completed about the last of January, at which time a benefit concert of the highest order, given by one of the greatest singers of the world, will be given for the purpose of paying for the stage fittings. Everybody will want to be at the opening of this building, and Mayor Davidson and Sam F. Stewart, commissioner of public buildings, hope to make the occasion one long to be remembered.

GOVERNOR OF KANSAS PRAISES GROWING WICHITA.

The address of Governor W. R. Stubbs at the laying of the corner-stone of the Beacon Building during the meeting of the Kansas Editorial Association, March 8: "We are today laying a foundation that is full of significance and meaning. We are putting in the corner-stone of a monument to the private enterprise of Mr. Allen as well as to the public spirit and patriotism of the people of Wichita, whose enterprise and energy are the pride and the inspiration of Kansas. In all quarters and sections of our state it is conceded that Wichita represents the highest type of commercial enterprise and development within our borders. The story of Wichita reads like a romance. I am still a young man, but I was twelve years of age when this 'Peerless Princess of the Plains' was born. Forty years ago the buffalo roamed at will up

and down this magnificent valley upon which now stands your great establishments of commerce and industry. Here at the junction of these rivers was located an Indian village, and who knows but what on this very spot some mighty warrior of the tribe whose name you bear had his wigwam, where councils of war and peace decided the fate of unprotected frontier settlements? You are indeed fortunate in having among you men who saw this village townsite without an inhabitant of our race or of our civilization or of that religion that makes America greater than any other nation on earth today. From what I know of the frontier plainsman, I shall not be surprised to see William Mathewson, the original 'Buffalo Bill,' with you when you celebrate that great jubilee a few years hence, when the census enumerators for the first time will have counted 100,000 inhabitants in Wichita.

"The Wichita you see here today is not so much the product of tireless energy and endless toil as it is the result of a great faith and a greater loyalty. Wichita has had its dark days of trial and almost despair, but the indomitable spirits of its citizens enabled it to stand the shock of panics and survive those erratic changes of the elements which would have discouraged a less determined people. The race that has made Kansas so great came from a stock that can change even the elements when they are unfavorable. This is no figure of speech, but a scientific fact that can be easily demonstrated. Cities, like individuals, have sown wild oats, and Wichita is no exception, and I am gratified immensely today to hear upon every hand that she is standing up for righteousness in a way that touches the pride of every decent, law-abiding person of Kansas. No city in this broad West has any better schools and churches and colleges and academies, and I am informed that the spirit of moral uplift and civic virtue is the predominating influence that controls your community. This, with your marvelous commercial business and industrial opportunities, are winning favor for you everywhere and constitute the strongest and most attractive appeal to people of ambition, energy and character throughout the land. But I want to say to you, my friends, that you have only just commenced your career of fortune. Within this generation you will have 100,000 inhabitants, and in twenty years you will be laying foundations of other buildings that will make this one which we are eulogizing here today look insignificant. No man of understanding can reflect on the vastness and richness of this valley and territory, or estimate its

development, without seeing in the distance a city of a quarter of a million people. Your pioneer fathers were considered the wildest sort of dreamers when they saw in the far-away future a city of 50,000 inhabitants. You have more than that now, and you will have doubled it within the near future, or I am no prophet. It is especially gratifying to me to know that the first ten-story building in Kansas is to be the home of a newspaper. Modern civilization is largely influenced by the public press. Cities can dispense with almost any other civic factor and succeed, but they cannot make satisfactory progress without newspapers.

"Now, I am sure you will all agree with me that at the head of the newspaper which is to make this building its permanent home is a writer and business man who has few, if any, superiors in the Mississippi valley. I have known Henry Allen for some years, and am well aware of his faculty to make himself heard in the world, and in making himself heard he will make all Kansas and all of the United States hear of you and your city. With the added prestige of his great achievement of financing this building, he has an extraordinary opportunity before him to not only increase his fame and fortune, but to be of signal usefulness to his city, his state and his country. I feel sure he will improve this opportunity at every point, and hence my allusion to the meaning and significance of the occasion. The newspapers of our state have never had such a harvest of opportunity as they enjoy today, and as many of that profession are with us, I cannot refrain from giving expression to some of the ideas of a layman. I have some right to do this, for in my brief public career I have contributed indirectly to an increase in your powers in the state. I have taken a humble part in making government in this state responsive to public opinion. This came from my faith in the people, and I hope I shall never have any reason to regret it. I participated in the movement that gave to every man in Kansas a free voice in the nomination of men for public office. I call this matter to your attention for no other purpose than to say that the day the primary election law became effective the newspapers were clothed with not only greater power but also with greater responsibility. The public press in a large measure moulds public opinion, and under the primary election law public opinion makes or unmakes public officers. If I did not have an abiding faith in the patriotism of the editorial profession, I am frank to state that I

would not have voted for a law that places in your hands such tremendous power to shape the destiny of this state.

“I would suggest also that you get into closer touch not only with your publishers, but with your editors and reporters. I regard the men who gather the news for newspapers among my best friends, and in every way worthy of my confidence. They do not always agree with me, but I have yet to know one of them who has not been true to his relations with myself and my office. The newspaper man is a good companion because he is intelligent and knows a great deal about public affairs and public opinion. It is a serious mistake to suppose that a newspaper is a party organ or a political institution. In this day and age of the world it is as much of a business institution as a bank or general store, or a factory, and if it is successful it must pursue the same business methods of sterling honesty and render the same kind of service to its customers. In Kansas, I am told by good professional authority, we have the best newspapers in the United States, taking into consideration the size of the cities where they are published. I read in a magazine a few days ago that we have more editors who have national reputations than any other state of a similar size in the Union. Stand by the newspapers. Work in harmony with them and give them your moral and financial encouragement, and you will have a better business, a better community and a more healthy and wholesome moral and political atmosphere.”

CHAPTER XXIX.

WICHITA AN IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL CENTER.

The growth of Wichita in the past twenty years from a village to a modern city of 55,000 people has been a source of surprise and wonder to those who have watched the development of the great Southwest, but nothing in the city's history has been more remarkable than the rise of her educational institutions. Wichita is proud of her universities and her colleges. They have risen to splendid proportions during the past few years and are rapidly taking positions of high rank among the educational institutions of the country. Each succeeding school year brings an increased number of college students to Wichita. They come from all over Kansas, Oklahoma and neighboring states. They are attracted here by the unusual advantages that are offered by the universities and colleges of Wichita and by the high educational standards that are consistently maintained by these schools. The universities and colleges of Wichita owe much of their remarkable success to their efficient management. The executive heads of these growing schools have been able to organize their institutions to take care of the increased enrollments and extended courses. They have managed to acquire larger facilities and to offer better things to their hundreds of students every year. They have been progressive. The favorable location also has helped with the work and a prosperous city has done its part in supporting the institutions in the way that schools of their class deserve to be supported.

The sum of all these efforts has made Wichita the educational center as well as the commercial center of the great Southwest.

FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE.

Fairmount College has grown into a splendid, thriving institution within the fifteen years that it has been organized for college work. With a net enrollment of 341 students, the college is rapidly enlarging its facilities for taking care of a larger student

body. In a short time another large dormitory will be erected for the young women of the college. It will be similar to Fiske Hall which is now used for dormitory purposes by the college men and the new building will need to be quite as large as Fiske Hall. The main hall of the college is a roomy and attractive building. The founders of the college laid their plans for a large school when the building was erected and it will furnish classroom accommodations for several hundred students. One of the other principal buildings on the campus is the fine library building for which a substantial gift from Andrew Carnegie is largely responsible. The new building now houses a library of over 30,000 volumes, which is open to the students and to the public. Fairmount has a faculty of twenty-five scholarly people, who are laboring earnestly and industriously for the intellectual development of the college men and women. Dr. Henry E. Thayer, the president, has shown marked ability as an executive officer, and those associated with him on the faculty are specialists in their respective lines.

Fairmount deserves the reputation it has as one of the best colleges in Kansas for liberal arts work, and its conservatory of music is rapidly rising in importance among the departments of the college. Fairmount also maintains a preparatory school for those who are unable to meet the entrance requirements.

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY.

Friends University was established twelve years ago. About 400 young men and women are taking training there at the present time, and the enrollment in the college of liberal arts has increased about fifty this year. Under the administration of President Edmund Stanley, the university has made a healthy growth and a prosperous epoch has opened for the institution. The university has one of the largest college buildings in the West. Not all of the interior is yet finished for use, but about \$12,000 has been spent this year finishing additional rooms in the building, and splendid accommodations are now provided for all the class work. The building is well equipped, and dormitories are provided for the students. Courses are offered at Friends' in liberal arts and sciences, theology, education, music, fine arts, commercial work, physical culture and preparatory work. Spe-



FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE.

cial prominence is given in the curriculum to liberal arts work and music and the institution is acquiring a wide reputation for the work it is doing in these departments.

Friends' has a faculty of finished scholars, and they are making the university one of the most progressive and most thorough schools in the state.

MOUNT CARMEL ACADEMY.

Mount Carmel Academy is another school that is prominent among the institutions of learning in this section. Mount Carmel was established in 1887, but its greatest growth has been made during the past few years. It is a boarding school for young women and is under the management and control of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Owing to the ever-increasing number of students, new constructions have been added to the original building, until the present academy is of magnificent proportions, with a frontage of 300 feet, and accommodations for over 250 students. The teaching staff of the institution has been greatly enlarged during the past two or three years, and the Sisters of Charity, who are in charge of the school, devote their entire attention to the refinement and education of the young women in their charge. The academy is favorably located two and a half miles west of the city. Students of all religious denominations are admitted. Courses in academic, preparatory and primary departments are maintained.

WICHITA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The children and young men and women who are now enrolled in the public schools of Wichita now number 8,556, an increase of 1,236 over the corresponding period of last year. The high school has an enrollment of 832, an increase of seventy-six over last year.

Seventeen buildings in the city are now being used by the grade schools and three more large ones are under course of construction. The new buildings will be ready for use at the opening of the next school year. In addition to the new buildings for the grades, a contract will be let during the next two weeks for the erection of a new high school building on Emporia avenue, between Second and Third streets. The new building will cost a quarter of a million dollars, and will be completed in about twelve

months. Over 175 teachers are employed in the city schools. The salaries of these teachers amount to about \$13,000 a month. The officers and employes draw \$300 a month more, and janitors are paid about \$1,000 a month, making the pay roll of the public-school system in the neighborhood of \$15,000 a month.

BUSINESS SCHOOLS.

In addition to all these splendid institutions of higher learning and the extensive system of public instruction which the city maintains, there are many thriving schools of business training, music, languages and other special lines of learning and culture.

Wichita is a great school city. Her power and influence in educational matters are increasing with the march of years and her enlarging facilities for the training of young men and women are rapidly making her the Athens of the great Southwest.—From the "Daily Beacon."

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY.

There are no better schools in Kansas than the public schools of Wichita and Sedgwick county. The residents of the county point with no small degree of pride to the county schools. There is a uniform system of school books, and the country schools in Sedgwick county, as in all counties of Kansas, are carefully graded. The schools of the county are now under the efficient management of Prof. J. W. Swaney, a most experienced educator.

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

That Sedgwick county is one of the greatest school counties in the state, is shown by the 12,000 and more pupils who are attending the schools this year. The school census for the county showed that there were 17,914 persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years. This means that almost 61 per cent of them attend school. This fact was learned from the annual report of J. W. Swaney, county school superintendent. It is learned from this report that to educate the children of Sedgwick county last year took the tidy little sum of \$378,186.90. The monthly pay roll of teachers in the schools, outside of Wichita, amounts to \$11,525

every month. The monthly pay roll of teachers in the city schools amounts to \$15,000 per month. It costs \$2.54 per month to educate the pupil in a one-teacher school, and \$3.23 to educate one in the two or more teacher school. The monthly cost of instructing a pupil in the Barnes high schools is \$5.81.

The salaries paid in the county schools are no jokes. When it is realized that the average monthly salary of women teachers in the schools amounts to \$51 per month, it is easily understood why there is a desertion from the dry goods counters. The men receive an average monthly salary of \$57, but the men are scarce. The lowest salary paid in the rural schools is \$40, the highest \$111. There is nothing the matter with the attendance of the pupils. The average enrollment in the one-teacher schools is 23, and the average attendance is 17. In the two-teacher-or-more schools the average enrollment is 31 and the average attendance is 28.

RURAL SCHOOLS ARE GROWING.

The rural schools of the county are growing. There are at least 200 more pupils enrolled in the schools this year than there were last. The number of teachers in the country schools is fourteen more than were on duty last year. Sixteen thousand dollars were spent in building new schools last season, and several thousand will be expended this year. The enrollment in the high schools is 100 better this season than it was last. The high school is becoming one of the most attractive features of the Kansas plan of education. Under the Barnes law, any town that can show one year's work on high school work, done thoroughly, is given aid from the Barnes fund the next year. Several strong schools have been built under this plan. Two of the strongest high schools in the county are the Cheney high school and the Clearwater high school. Each of these schools has a complete four years' fully accredited course and is turning out some strong men. Superintendent Swaney says that the county high school makes it possible for every boy to have the same chance. Last year 226 were graduated from the county schools. A majority of them entered the high schools and academies of the state. The education of the farmer boy doesn't stop now at the sixth, eighth grades or senior year of high school. You will find him in the universities and colleges. In the common country school he comes

in contact with broad-minded teachers—this is especially so in Sedgwick county—who show him the value of an education.

Mr. Swaney says that this report is one of the best he has ever received from the county schools and that he expects greater things next year.

The various district school buildings of the county were the very best buildings in the district when built. The last decade has seen a most agreeable change for the better in the school buildings; the old house has been added to, or has given place to a larger and more commodious structure; the buildings in this day are painted, and present a neat and attractive appearance. In many instances convenient stables have been erected upon the school lots where the horses of the pupils are cared for, those at a distance now attending school, and driving in conveyances. This method was unheard of in the olden days. Better teachers are the rule, those holding normal school certificates being preferred, and the pupils wear better clothing than in the past.

15,225 SCHOOL KIDS IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.

Superintendent J. W. Swaney, of the county educational system, is busy preparing the apportionment of the state and county funds for school purposes, pro rata for all children of school age. The aggregate will be the largest in a long while, and far in excess of last year. Prof. Swaney gives it out that there are in all 15,225 children in the county of school age, and that means between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The first apportionment of the superintendent will be the first dividend on the semi-annual school fund divided among all pupils. Of the total number of scholars above given, Wichita's portion is 9,353, and the rest of the county 5,872. The state fund will be about 49 cents per student available, and from the county, such as fines, forfeited bonds from the district court, about 10 cents more, making in all about 60 cents per capita. For the first dividend last year, in February, it was but 45 cents, and for August last it was 50 cents. There are 167 organized districts in the county, and nearly all are in the finest of condition, all view-points considered, such as high tone of scholastic work done, punctuality, standard of teachers, and numbers attending out of the school population.

THE WICHITA CITY SCHOOLS.**By****RODOLPH HATFIELD.**

As the public schools of an American community constitute a reliable index to its intellectual, moral and industrial rank, the history of such an important feature of Wichita's growth must prove interesting and worthy of conservation in its annals. This is especially true, as the men who have composed its directorates and boards have been animated by no spirit of selfish gain nor motives of ambitious preferment, but rather by a sense of duty to serve their day and generation for the common good, without hope or expectation of monetary benefit, or, indeed, of being the recipients even of any considerable amount of unanimous public gratitude. No other branch of public service demands and receives such time and attention, unremunerated by the public treasury. Such service is the most conspicuous exception to the truth and rule, "The laborer is worthy of his hire."

Forty years ago, or in 1870, Wichita was a newly founded frontier village, with a population of fifty souls, all told. The spirit of free schools, a cardinal principle of American civilization, found early expression in infantile Wichita, and resulted in the organization of its first public school, in the spring of 1871, holding its sessions in the Presbyterian church, corner of Wichita and Third streets, with Miss Jessie Hunter (now Mrs. James H. Black) as teacher, during a portion of the summer. The enrollment was twenty-five pupils, and the munificent salary of \$40 per month was paid the said teacher. Mrs. Black may congratulate herself in having so successfully started public instruction in Wichita as to require now nearly 200 teachers, after forty years, to conduct it properly. The city should fittingly recognize the services of its first school teacher.

The members of that first directorate were: John M. Martin, director; Dr. Lewellen, secretary, and Dr. Oatley; treasurer. The first-named gentleman has continued an honored resident of the city through all the intervening years of frontier vicissitudes, and has repeatedly served the people well as a member of the Board of Education, as well as a member of the city council. Mr. Mar-

tin may be justly termed the "official founder or father" of the Wichita city schools.

The first public school building in Wichita was a small two-room frame, erected on the site of the late Webster, corner of Emporia and Third, which latter, in turn, has been razed recently to make room for the new high school now in course of construction.

In the winter and spring of 1872, according to the very meager records of that time, Prof. Snover and Miss Lizzie Higday taught a short term of school, but there remain no details of the first work in the new building.

During the summer of 1872, the first school building was enlarged and that fall Mr. John Tucker was chosen first superintendent, and, with Mrs. Lizza Tucker, Mrs. Helen Fees and Miss Lizzie Higday as teachers, constituted the corps of instructors for the school year of 1872-73. Mr. Tucker was paid a salary of \$80 per month as superintendent, and several years later served Sedgwick county as treasurer for two terms. The first building, as enlarged, burned December 21, 1879.

In the spring of 1873 Wichita's public school system assumed more metropolitan proportions and rank, by forming its first Board of Education, with a membership of six, as follows: Dr. A. H. Fabrique, C. M. Garrison, H. J. Hills, N. McClees, M. R. Moser and R. L. West. The first board was organized with Mr. R. L. West as its president, Mr. (now ex-Gov.) W. E. Stanley as secretary, and Rev. J. P. Harsen as treasurer. In that early and far-away day, it may be noted that the official microbe was manifesting itself in the political system of our genial and distinguished ex-governor.

The first school enumeration in Wichita was officially taken in 1873, and showed 449 children of school age. It was during this same summer, too, that the school board instituted the first step in municipal finance by submitting a proposition to the people to vote and issue \$3,000 of bonds, but the voice of the people was not the voice of the board, and the proposed bond issue was defeated by a majority of 145 votes.

In the ensuing two school years of 1873-74 and 1874-75, Prof. B. C. Ward was elected superintendent, at \$120 per month, with Mrs. Helen L. Fees, Miss Lizzie M. Foote, Miss Mattie J. Nichols and Mrs. M. H. West as teachers.

Including the present incumbents, eleven different individuals

have acted as superintendents, twenty-two as presidents, nine as secretaries and six as treasurers of the Board of Education. Superintendent R. F. Knight has served in that capacity more years than any of his predecessors, being now in his tenth consecutive term. Keeping out of partisan politics has kept him in his place and given the city the most satisfactory and efficient superintendence of its schools.

Of the presidents, the records show M. W. Levy as serving the greatest number of years as such officer, but Rodolph Hatfield as second in term of service in that capacity, and first in number of consecutive terms as a member of the board. Of the secretaries, the present efficient incumbent, C. S. Caldwell, now in his fourteenth consecutive term, leads all in length of service. Mrs. E. C. Furley exceeds all others in time of service as treasurer, having held the position for seven years.

Of the many principals who have served our people well in the grammar schools, and so materially contributed to the successful administrations of superintendents, placing our city school system among the foremost of the country, we can only mention a few of those whose names and work, in many years of commendable identification with Wichita schools, if omitted, would leave these annals incomplete of main features and facts. Many hundreds of young people, now engaged in life's activities, trace their inspiration for learning to Principals Mrs. M. N. Neihardt, (nee Dickinson), Miss Addie J. Brook, Miss Jennie Daugherty, Mrs. Rodolph Hatfield (nee Morehead), Miss Minnie Stuckey, Miss Emma McGee, Mrs. George S. Freeman (nee Mulvey), Miss Amy Burd, Miss Mary Shaw, Prof. D. S. Pense and Prof. J. S. Carson and others of lesser years' service, but of equally efficient work.

HIGH SCHOOL.

In 1874 Prof. B. C. Ward organized the first high school, and its sessions were held in the old frame building on the site of the new high school building. There it was conducted, without any record separation from the grade school, or distinct teachers, for ten years, or till the first high school building was erected, in 1884, and which has been continuously in use, on North Emporia, as a high school, with its many additions, since then, and will so continue till the new building is opened in the fall of 1911. Wichita, prior to 1886, and the growth of the "boom," was only a

healthy country village, and contented with village methods and school equipment. There is no record as to who constituted the first corps of high school teachers, but it is known that for the ten years after its organization, or until the high school building was erected, there was no principal elected, but the superintendent was principal ex officio, and performed the duties of that officer. We find mention, however, not as the first, but among the early high school teachers were Dora Wadsworth, Mary Neely, Josie Reynolds, and one or two others.

For the year 1874-75, Prof. Ward reported forty-eight pupils in the high school department. The first class graduated from the Wichita high school was in 1879, and was composed of three girls and one boy, viz.: Clemmie Davidson, Grace Pope, May L. Throckmorton (now the wife of Mayor C. L. Davidson), and W. B. Throckmorton.

The first principal elected was John G. Steffee, in 1884. Many earnest and efficient men have held the principalship since then, of whom not the least is the present incumbent, Prof. I. N. Allen, with twenty-five teachers and about 800 pupils. With completion of the new high school building, the enrollment will easily reach and pass 1,000. In the present corps of instructors is an early graduate of the school and a very faithful and capable member, Miss Leida H. Mills, whose long and acceptable service, particularly in the Latin department, entitles her to special and honorable mention.

The music department, with Miss Jessie Clark for many years its efficient director, and the art department, under the acceptable supervision of Miss Ann Mason, were established in order as the schools grew many years ago, and each of said departments ranks in the foremost of their respective kinds.

Manual training and domestic science departments were duly installed in the old Webster building, October 1, 1903, with Clarence J. Smith and Miss Olivia M. Staatz, respectively, as instructors. These departments have grown steadily and are now recognized as of great value to the young men and women entering them, as they specifically equip them for self-maintenance.

A commercial department was also added to the high school curriculum in 1907, and is steadily affording the best of instruction to pupils in it, and is only one of the various departments which compose the curriculum of a modern high school.

PROPERTY.

There are now, including the new high school, nineteen buildings, which, with grounds and equipment, are estimated of the value of from \$700,000 to \$750,000, and every year the board is adding rooms to these, yet the schools remain continuously crowded.

Thus have the public schools of Wichita, in forty years, grown from a first enrollment of twenty-five, with one teacher, to an enrollment of some 8,000, with nearly 200 teachers, and from one small two-room building of frame to nineteen splendidly constructed and equipped brick and stone structures, and now rank, as a well organized system of public instruction, among the very best in this land of superior public schools.

GRADE SCHOOLS.

The public school system of Wichita is the largest business enterprise in the city, and is growing so rapidly that the Board of Education is kept busy advertising for bids for new school houses. The total valuation of the schools of Wichita is close to \$2,000,000. There are nineteen school buildings, which are supplied with 190 teachers. The school enrollment on the first day of this year was more than 7,000, and it is expected by the end of the year to amount to almost 9,000. The phenomenal growth in the number of students in the Wichita schools has been one of the most remarkable things in the progress of Wichita. The increase in pupils from 1909 to 1910 was more than the combined growth of the schools of Kansas City and St. Louis. The schools of Wichita offer every branch that can be taught in the public schools. Every convenience that can be given the pupil is given to the students in the Wichita schools. The board always has been willing to put in new departments as the time demanded them. The schools are managed on a very democratic basis and the pupil's advancement is in proportion to his ability to work and learn.

The primary object of the Wichita schools is not to make the pupil a shining light of erudition, one who can master every phase of arithmetic and decipher involved sentences like a Harvey. Its object is to give him tools with which he can hew out the most successful life. It doesn't try to make a success of him; it gives him the means of making a success of himself. Wichita has made

investments the increased values of which seemed almost unbelievable, but its greatest investment has been in its school system. The first school building put up in Wichita was a small one-room frame building which stood at the corner of North Emporia avenue and Third street, the site of the \$250,000 high school building now being erected. It was built in 1871. So anxious were the students to go to school that school was held on the day following the completion of the building. The hub of school life in Wichita is the high school. A complete four-year course of study is offered at this institution, which is fully accredited at all of the state universities. After completing the eight years of work in the grammar schools, the student is admitted into the high school. At present the handsome new high school building is under construction, and will be finished next summer. When completed, this will be one of the finest high school buildings in the state. All work in the public schools is superintended by R. F. Knight, who is one of the well-known educational men of Kansas. The management of the schools is in the hands of the Board of Education, the members of which are: E. B. Messerve, president; C. H. Andrews, J. F. McCoy, Robert Campbell, C. R. Howard, W. H. Kelchner, H. W. Collier, H. M. Grafton, E. Stanley, W. R. Nessly, L. B. Price, H. F. Miltner. C. S. Caldwell is clerk.

ENROLLMENT IN THE WARD SCHOOLS.

In the public schools of Wichita there were enrolled the first week in October, 1910, nearly 8,000 pupils. The enrollment in the several schools is as follows: Carleton, 390; College Hill, 304; Emerson, 442; Fairmount, 96; Franklin, 604; Harry, 396; Ingalls, 580; Irving, 654; Kellogg, 618; Lincoln, 577; Linwood, 249; McCormick, 267; Martinson, 204; Park, 295; Riverside, 87; Waco, 474; Woodland, 105; Washington, 480; high school, 800. Total enrollment is 7,822.

WICHITA HIGH SCHOOL.

Wichita high school was organized thirty-two years ago. A comparison of the high school then with that of today would indicate clearly the rapid growth of the city. Then there was one teacher, one room, eight pupils, four branches of study taught and a three years' course offered. Today there are thirty teachers, 800 pupils, twenty-five studies taught, a four years' course, and

100 graduates per year. The growth of the American high school has been phenomenal, and the growth of the Wichita high school has been typical. From the first graduating class of Wichita high school, four in number, are numbered some of our leading citizens of today. Since that time, the number has increased from year to year, so that among her alumni are found leading lawyers, doctors, merchants, bankers, business and professional men. From the one-room high school is traced the successive periods of growth of two rooms, four rooms, eight rooms and twelve rooms. This last state has been inadequate for over five years, and the only way the large high school population could be housed was by dividing the school into two sections, taking half in the forenoon and half in the afternoon, thus converting the twelve-room building into a twenty-four-room building. Probably it is safe to say that no city in the United States has had a harder problem of handling her high school population for the last five years than has this city. Yet this has been done, and the school has held her own with the other large high schools of the country. During the last three years fully accredited relationships have been established with the leading women's colleges of the country—Wellesley, Smith and Vassar—while the boys of the high school enter the leading colleges of the Middle West without examination or condition.

The present crowded condition, however, is soon to be relieved, when a magnificent \$200,000 high school building will shortly be ready for occupancy. In this fifty-room building will be installed an equipment equal to that in the best high schools. A faculty of forty or more trained teachers will offer instruction to more than a thousand pupils. All departments will be expanded. Manual training will include woodwork, metal work, forge and machine shops. Domestic science will offer the girls cooking, sewing and household economics. The commercial department will be equipped so as to offer in modern office and business practice. The academic department will be correspondingly increased and improved so that the Wichita high school will be surpassed by none in the Southwest.—I. M. Allen, Principal High School.

RAZING OF WEBSTER SCHOOL BUILDING.

Razing of the old Webster school building at Emporia avenue and Third street, to make way for the new \$125,000 high school

building, brings to a host of citizens memories of their early years. The material in the building was taken out under supervision of A. Wilday, a pioneer contractor and builder, who, in the interest of the school board, saved it for use in constructing a warehouse for school supplies. Mr. Wilday is to many buildings in Wichita somewhat like the old family doctor. He came to this city in 1873, and has been associated with many other contractors in building countless structures. Like an old family doctor of buildings, he has officiated at their beginning, has repaired them in their illnesses, and still administers at their final passing from the world. Of present public school structures, the Webster, or, as it was known in former days, "the old Fourth Ward," is among the oldest. It was built in 1880, at the same time as the Emerson school. The Carleton school had been put up in 1879.

This trio was sufficient for the school population until 1885, when the Park and Lincoln schools met the demands of boom days, followed by the Franklin in 1886 and the Irving in 1887. Two years later were built the Washington, McCormick and Kellogg, College Hill in 1890, Fairmount (public) in 1895. Lately have come the mere youngsters of school structures—the Riverside, Martinson and Linwood. The first public school was held in a Presbyterian church at the site now known as Wichita and Third streets, and there Miss Jessie Hunter (now Mrs. James H. Black) was the first teacher. That was in 1871, when twenty-five pupils attended. The site which is now being erased for the new high school was first used for a school that same year, when a two-room frame building was put up in November and December. That predecessor of the old Webster school was destroyed by fire December 21, 1879. Then began the history of the building which is now passing away. The "Eagle" reported on May 6, 1880: "About \$8,000 of the \$15,000 voted last spring are still held by the board waiting for the plans of the new buildings. E. T. Carr, the state architect, who was employed by the board, was here last week looking at the ground for the foundation, the classes of building material, and so forth."

The contract was awarded to H. F. Butler on June 21, 1880, at the lowest bid of \$16,600, to put up a six-room brick and a four-room brick, these structures being the beginnings of the Emerson and the Webster schools. With its additions, the Webster school cost \$11,000. By the contract terms, the building was to be completed September 21, 1880. At that time when the

building became endeared to the first instalment of its alumni, Wichita was the fifth city in Kansas, with a population of 5,482. The total assessed value of all real estate in the city was \$314,581, and the total taxable personal property was \$341,064. In that year the editor of the Caldwell "Commercial" made this comment, after visiting Wichita: "The majority of the people have the same old faith in the future of the place, and are manfully working to make the place one of the big cities of the West." When the Webster school was built, M. W. Levy, now of New York City, was president of the Board of Education, and on the board H. C. Mann and D. W. Smith represented the Fourth Ward. Prof. L. G. A. Copley was superintendent of schools.

CHAPTER XXX.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY.

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY.

By

PRESIDENT EDMUND STANLEY.

Friends University occupies a commanding view as one looks westward along University avenue, the most beautiful boulevard in the city of Wichita. The graceful elms and stately maples, with now and then an ash or sycamore, with boughs almost overlapping above the smooth asphalt pavement, the cement walks and broad parking—all help to make the approach to the university an attractive thoroughfare for the residents as well as the visitors in the city. Few educational institutions are so favorably situated, and none have buildings more imposing in structure or more beautiful in architecture. The history of the main building, the plan of its construction and the difficulties encountered in the progress of the work have been so graphically described by Mr. R. J. Kirk, in an issue of the "Kansas Magazine," that, by permission, it is here reproduced:

Almost like a romance reads the history of Friends University (then Garfield University), Wichita's boom educational institution. Conceived during the time of the wildest building activity, it was to be the crowning feature of them all. And it was. Nowhere in the world was there a school building containing as much floor space under one roof. It was Wichita's pride, and the enthusiastic citizens pointed to the massive pile of stone and mortar and poured into the ear of the astonished Easterner the work of Kansas in the educational line, as well as in other industries. The gigantic university building, costing more than a quarter million dollars, grew, blossomed and then faded away in its infancy. The story of the university on the western outskirts of Wichita is the story of many other institutions and industries

founded and fondled during those momentous times. Many of them died, were buried and then forgotten. Others lived, died and then arose from the ashes of abandonment to serve even a greater purpose than originally planned. In this latter class belongs the chronicles of the foundation now occupied by Friends University.

The promoters of Wichita early determined that that city should be the gateway to all the Southwest. Many of them looked at the proposition from a cold-blooded business standpoint only. But while Wichita was building railroads, factories and office blocks, some asked why it should not be equally practicable to make the "Peerless Princess of the Plains" the educational as well as the commercial center. In 1886, while the memory of the late lamented James A. Garfield was yet fresh in the minds of all Americans, W. B. Hendryx conceived the dedication of a great university in the West, even as great as the universities in the East, to the memory of the departed president.

Mr. Hendryx at that time was pastor of the Central Christian Church in Wichita. He was the leading spirit in building the structure, and was later made its first president. Mr. Hendryx was formerly pastor in President Garfield's church, at Mentor, Ohio, and, being a personal friend of the executive, was a great admirer of his virtues. At the Rev. Hendryx's suggestion, the university was given its name. It was originally intended that the school should belong to the Christian denomination, and the Wichita church was one of the backers in the enterprise, but the principal support came from the citizens, irrespective of church affiliation. After lying idle, forsaken and forlorn, a home for pigeons and wayfaring tramps, from 1892 until 1898, the building came into the hands of the Friends church, and since that time has gone under its present name.

Elaborateness was the watchword with the founders of Garfield University. Cost was not considered when the plans were drawn, and the sole aim was to make the best possible building that money could erect, and to place in it the highest perfection of the architect's and craftsman's skill. As a result of this policy, the building is a model of the stonemason's art and, architecturally, it remains today the peer of any building in Kansas. In the basement alone \$27,000 were spent, and the foundation was laid in such a manner that it will endure for centuries. The highest quality of brick was placed in the upperstructure, and

the trimmings, finely carved and sculptured, were brought from the famous quarries at Bedford, Ind. The work on the building progressed rapidly, and by the time the boom bubble was punctured the north wing of the building was completed and ready for occupancy. The remainder of the building, however, was unfinished, and the greater portion of it stood without a roof for several months. With the exception of the north wing, the building was nothing but a shell until the occupancy of the Friends in 1898. Since that time much of the other portions have been completed.

The property soon after passed into the hands of Mr. Edgar Harding, a capitalist of Boston, who had advanced money to the amount of nearly one hundred thousand dollars for the prosecution of the work in the construction of the buildings. The school disbanded in 1892 and the buildings remained closed and without occupants for the following six years. In 1898 a full-page advertisement appeared in a St. Louis paper, describing the university property, and announcing that it was for sale.

James M. Davis, a wealthy investor of St. Louis, saw this advertisement, and, as he was contemplating some work of this kind in connection with the Friends in Kansas, he became interested at once. This was the beginning of the history of Friends University. Mr. Davis came to Wichita and made a careful inspection of the property. The building, though vacant and dust covered within, presented many attractions to the keen eye of a practical business man. The massive walls of the foundation, the high grade material used in the construction, the beautiful designs of architecture, and the large and commodious halls and lecture rooms appealed to him forcefully, and he set about at once a movement for the reopening of the property for the original purposes contemplated in its construction.

Mr. James Allison, of Wichita, was at the time custodian of the property, and as a citizen he had long been interested in the property and its purposes. He at once took up the matter of the sale of the property, having the assurance that if Mr. Davis purchased it the building would very soon be reopened for college purposes, and the work of finishing the great structure would be pushed as rapidly as the needs of the institution should demand. The citizens of Wichita offered to give to the institution 300 additional city lots in the territory adjacent to the university if the purchase was made and the property again occupied for col-

lege purposes. The transfer of the property was consummated in March, 1898. It consisted of the university building and campus, the two dormitories and nearly 300 city lots of the original property. Mr. Davis soon after made an offer of the property to Kansas Friends on condition that they raise a fund of \$50,000 for the beginning of a permanent endowment of the institution. This offer was accepted by the permanent board of the church and later ratified by the annual meeting of the Friends, including the congregations of Kansas and Oklahoma. In the September following the college was opened, with fifty pupils. The proposed endowment was speedily raised and the title to the property was transferred to the church in 1903, one year earlier than the contract stipulated. Since its organization the university has had a steady growth and its equipment has been as steadily enlarged. Four hundred students have enrolled for work during the past year, \$12,000 have been expended for the enlargement of its facilities, and much of the unoccupied room in the building has been finished and brought into use.

The great building is fast approaching completion, the campus is being set to trees and grass, walks and drives constructed, and one can now get a glimpse of the founders' ideal, as no doubt he saw the scene as he made plans for a future great university.

The university has at the present time a faculty of about twenty professors, assistant professors and instructors, most of whom are specialists in their departments of work. It is building up an excellent library, equipping laboratories, has the nucleus of a fine museum, has increased its endowment to \$135,000, and is planning to materially increase this amount in the near future. In a word, the past history of the institution, the work that has been accomplished, the patronage it is receiving and the confidence it has inspired through careful and businesslike management and thorough and practical work, give promise of a successful future and a place of high rank for Friends University among the educational institutions of the growing and prosperous Middle West.

The Friends University has a most promising field for operation. Its support is drawn largely from the two states, Kansas and Oklahoma, but there are students in attendance from many other states. It is the policy of the board to make the institution strongly and positively Christian in its instruction and social life, but to guard against anything of a sectarian bias. Emphasis is

put upon those things that tend to build character and develop real Christian manhood and womanhood, leaving in the background the shades of differences that have so long maintained the barriers among the churches of Christendom. Its door are open to young men and young women alike, and honors and preferment are equally accessible to all who enter for the work of its classes. A number of different churches are represented in its faculty, and among its students are found young men and young women of almost every church fellowship of our country. Its Biblical and Theological Department, which is the most complete in its organization and most comprehensive in its instruction in the state, is patronized by young people from many different churches studying side by side and striving for that preparation that is needful for the work of world-evangelization of the twentieth century. Such was the purpose of the founders of the institution, and such is the policy of the management, as shown by the inner working and spirit of the university.

The student in search of opportunities for obtaining a liberal education can find ample courses of instruction open to him and from which he can select to suit his taste or prospective needs if he wishes to fit himself for specialization later. In addition to the large number of college courses offered, there are courses for teachers leading to state certificates, and which are recognized by the State Board of Education; also commercial and academy courses are maintained. The university has a strong and exceedingly popular conservatory of music, with instructors of marked ability and thorough preparation. In a word, the great structure so magnificently planned has within its walls abundant room for many and varied lines of work, and it is the purpose to occupy and utilize as rapidly as means will justify and the increase of students demand.

The great Southwest should have at its door all the facilities for the thorough education of its children, and if the business enterprise and sound judgment prevail in this, as in most other interests, our people will not long withhold their means from the institutions in their midst that promise such valuable returns for investments. There are many reasons in favor of educating our young men and young women at or near the home and home influences, besides the question of financial cost, and as the community comes to a fuller realization of these advantages, institutions of learning in our midst will receive better patronage, stronger

financial support and more hearty appreciation. Our young men and young women are our most valuable assets in business, and their proper education and equipment for life will yield the greatest returns for our financial investments. Indeed, the investment that men put into the lives and minds and hearts of those they help and influence is the only permanent and enduring investment that they can make. All others perish.

FACULTY FRIENDS UNIVERSITY.

1909-10—1910-11.

Edmund Stanley, A. M., Penn College, 1892; President; Professor of History and Political Science.

William P. Trueblood, B. S., Earlham, 1875; Vice-President; Professor of History and Philosophy.

Benjamin W. Truesdell, A. B., Friends University, 1902; Graduate Student University of Chicago, 1902 and 1904; Professor of Education and Chemistry.

Anson B. Harvey, B. S., 1894, A. M., 1895, Haverford; Graduate Student University of Pennsylvania, 1895-97; Professor of Biology and Psychology.

John J. Wheeler, A. B., Indiana University, 1904; Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy.

Edith Furnas, Ph. B., Earlham, 1897; Graduate Student Bryn Mawr, 1898-99; University of Berlin, 1903-05; Student The Sorbonne, Paris, 1908-09; Professor of German and French Languages.

Charles E. Cosand, A. B., Earlham, 1896; Graduate Student University of Chicago, 1899-1900; Summer, 1908; Professor of English Language and Literature.

William L. Pearson, A. B., Earlham, 1875; A. M., Princeton University, 1880; Graduate and Fellow Princeton Theological Seminary, 1881; Student University of Berlin, 1881-83; Ph. D., University of Leipzig, 1885; Principal of Biblical School and Professor of Biblical Literature and Exegesis.

Arthur W. Jones, A. B., 1885, A. M., 1890, Haverford; Graduate Student University of Chicago, 1894-95; Professor of Greek and Latin Languages.

Edgar H. Stranahan, A. B., Earlham, 1898; A. M., Earlham, 1906; Professor of Church History and Christian Doctrine.

Verne F. Swaim, B. S., Earlham, 1909; Assistant in Mathematics and Director in Athletics.

Elsie McCoy, A. B., Wilmington, 1906; A. B., Ohio State University, 1909; Assistant in Latin and English.

Lucy Francisco, A. B., 1895, A. M., 1898, Earlham College; Graduate Student, Bryn Mawr, 1895-97; University of Chicago, Summer 1901; University of Wisconsin, 1902; Student in Conservatory of Music, Berlin, 1903-04, and Winter 1908-09; Director of the School of Music and Instructor in Piano and Voice, 1910-11.

Nellie May Benton, A. B., Friends University, 1907; Graduate School of Music Friends University 1907; Student in New England Conservatory, Boston, 1908-09; Instructor in Piano.

Gabriella Knight, Graduate Judson College and Conservatory of Music; Two Years Student in Berlin, Germany; Instructor in Violin, 1909-10.

M. Frederic Cahoon, Graduate of Dallas and Nashville Conservatories of Music; Student of Max Bendix, New York; Violin Instructor in Orchestral Instruments; on leave of absence 1909-10.

Gretchen Cox, Student of Max Bendix, S. Jacobsohn and Theodore Spiering; Instructor in Violin, 1909-10.

Lillian Crandall, Principal of the Commercial School.

Charlotte Whitney Barrett, Instructor in Elocution and Oratory.

Mabel Beck, Teacher in Training School.

Wm. P. Trueblood, Registrar.

C. E. Cosand, Librarian.

E. H. Stranahan, Principal of Preparatory School.

Anson B. Harvey, Curator of Museum.

Verne F. Swaim, Director of Gymnasium.

Charlotte Whitney Barrett, Assistant in Gymnasium.

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY A GREAT INSTITUTION.

By

FARMER DOOLITTLE.

Since Friends University has become a great educational institution, people are beginning to realize the great work of Prof. Edmund Stanley, who has been a teacher ever since he was

seventeen years of age. This magnificent building was a sort of an elephant drawn by Wichita in the days of her real estate boom. It was built away out on the prairie, beyond Robert Lawrence's farm, to boom an addition. It was given to the Christian church, which did not consider itself able to buy hay for the elephant. It was called Garfield University then, and Wichita soon realized that she still had one elephant on her hands. An effort was made to give it to the state of Kansas. The government lived in the northeastern section of the state, and it did not want any educational institutions in Wichita. Garfield University was a magnificent pile of red bricks, but that did not prevent its being an elephant on the hands of Wichita. The men whom the Christian church put in charge of the university tried hard to establish a school, but when they conceded their failure there was a big mortgage on the property. This mortgage put the university in the hands of Mr. Harding, of Boston, who sold it to James M. Davis, of St. Louis.

Mr. Davis actually bought the elephant, and just to show his magnanimous nature he gave it to the Friends church of Kansas and Oklahoma, and in 1898 Edward Stanley was elected president of the university. He came to Wichita at once and opened the school. He had \$250 in cash and an endowment of \$2,000. That appeared like a huge burlesque on universities, but some of the old-timers said: "Wait and see. This man Stanley is a James G. Blaine style of man, and the Friends are a common-sensed people. There is no foolishness about them; they may succeed." Well, when Prof. Stanley opened his school in September, 1898, he had forty-two students. He closed the term this year with 400 students, and some friends of the institution predict that when the next term opens in September 500 students will be enrolled. The university now has an endowment of \$130,000 and it closed its twelfth year with not a dollar of debt against the institution.

One hundred and twenty students have been graduated, and it means something to be a graduate of Friends University. The work in this great school is recognized by the state university on a par with its own, admitting its students for post-graduate work on a record of work in Friends University. The state university each year awards to Friends a fellowship valued at \$280, given to a graduate to pursue post-graduate work in the state university. Friends University is a religious school, but

non-sectarian. It has among its students Protestants, Catholics and Jews. This thing that Wichita regarded as an elephant that nobody wanted through the untiring industry of a President Stanley and the wise liberality of the Friends church has become one of the great educational institutions of the West.

President Stanley had received a training before coming to Wichita that fitted him for his great work. He became a teacher at the age of seventeen in the public schools in Hendricks county, Indiana, where he was born, and in this was earned the money to pay his way through the academy at Lafayette, Ind. He desired to see the South, and after the war he accepted a position as teacher under the Freedmen's Bureau, and opened a school at Curthage, Tenn., in 1867. He now has in his possession a Ku-Klux letter warning him to leave the place. He refused to leave, and his schoolhouse was burned down. He repudiates the idea that the ex-slaveholders and better class of people recognized the methods of the Ku-Klux. He rented a warehouse of a rich ex-slaveholder and reopened his school in it, and when there were threats to lynch him some of the ex-slaveholders armed their negroes and secreted them in nearby buildings to open fire on the mob if an attempt was made to molest the young school teacher. That kind of service was not pleasant to Prof. Stanley, and he gave up his job with the Freedmen's Bureau. He came to Lawrence, Kan., in 1868, and became a teacher in the public schools. In 1871 he married Miss Martha E. Davis, of that place, who was a Southern girl.

While in Lawrence he took up a line of studies in the state university. He was for four years principal of a ward school and assistant in the high school. He was for fifteen years superintendent of the Lawrence schools, and was elected state superintendent in 1894. The growth of this great school under President Stanley is very pleasing to the people of this city. When Prof. Stanley assumed control the huge building was not one-fourth completed, but now two-thirds of the sixty-six rooms and halls are finished without creating a debt, and Friends University is today the finest school building in the state of Kansas. The men who work in the cause of humanity never get rich and some of Prof. Stanley's friends say that he never could have succeeded so well if he had not had means outside of his salary to support his family. There now seems to be no legitimate reasons why Friends University shall not continue to grow until its influence

shall be as wide as the nation. It is even now a great institution, and in the years to come its patron saints will be Edmund Stanley and James M. Davis.

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY.

A little more than twelve years ago the largest and one of the most beautiful buildings in the city of Wichita was the home of bats, pigeons and sparrows. In September of 1898 the bats, sparrows and pigeons were crowded out. Where thousands of them had roosted for years there was started Friends University. The magnificent building now occupied by the prosperous Quaker college was erected during the boom days. Its original cost was \$265,000. It was built as the Garfield University and for a few years a school by that name was conducted. The college was closed at the bursting of the boom some twenty years ago. For about fifteen years the magnificent structure of Gothic architecture was unoccupied except for the birds and vermin. Vandals broke out windows here and there, destroyed furniture and carried away whatever pleased them. But the building itself remained intact. Then came James M. Davis, a wealthy St. Louis stereopticon view manufacturer, who was raised in Kansas of Quaker parents. Mr. Davis saw and admired the old and deserted Garfield University. He strolled about the unkept campus of virgin prairie; he entered the building and prowled about among the cobwebs; he frightened away hundreds of sparrows and pigeons from their nesting places among the rafters of unfinished wings. Then he went out of the musty corridors into the clean pure air and dreamed a dream.

At the beginning of this dream James M. Davis saw a young man of his own likeness struggling in poverty and privation for an education. He followed that young man through a number of years until he became a wealthy manufacturer in a city on the Mississippi. Then the scene shifted and the dream changed to a vision of the future. Mr. Davis saw the wild grasses of the campus transformed into a beautiful lawn of blue grass. Broad walks appeared on all sides leading to the main building. The nailed and cleated doors swung open and streams of happy faced students marched past him into the class room. The dream and the vision pleased James M. Davis. He smiled and went away to his home in the eastern city. In time he became the owner of

the building that had given him his dream. And he was proud of the ownership, for within his mind there was a deep purpose. Not long after the purchase of the building Mr. Davis appeared before the Kansas yearly meeting of the Friends church and offered to its members the building of his dreams for a college. With his gift he imposed certain restrictions as to the maintenance of a university and its endowment fund. The Friends of Kansas were elated with the gift of Mr. Davis. They immediately began the preparation of the building for the opening of the first Quaker college in the middle West. In September of 1898 school was opened.

From that time on the growth of the university has been rapid and permanent. The first year there were scarcely a hundred students and a half dozen professors. Next year there were twice as many students and a number of new faces in the faculty. The Quakers of Kansas came to the support of the new institution with money and students.

It was not many years till every Quaker academy in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas was sending an annual delegation to Friends University for higher education. Frequently students have come from Nebraska, Colorado, Missouri, Indiana and other states further away. They were drawn to Wichita by the fact that the big Friends school here is one of the finest and best equipped institutions maintained by the Friends in America. As a college, Friends quickly made a place for itself in the state of Kansas. At the present time the courses maintained at the university by a student at Friends are accepted for their face value in any other college of the middle West in the event a student desires to transfer. Kansas University, which sets the standard for Kansas scholarship, has given the Quaker college in this city full recognition. The Friends Biblical School is one of the few first class institutions of the sort in the West. Professors of long and careful preparation head this department. During the current term there are three pastors of Wichita churches taking advanced Biblical work at the university. A number of the foremost Quaker preachers and missionaries of the present generation are graduates of the Friends Biblical department. In athletics the Quakers stepped into the first rank of Kansas colleges within four years after the school was established. From 1903 to 1907 the Quakers sent onto the football fields some of the best football men who ever wore moleskins in



FRIENDS UNIVERSITY.

this state. Three years ago football was officially wiped off the curriculum of Friends University. Instead of football the Quakers are now introducing soccer. The first soccer ball game ever played in Kansas occurred last fall between the Quakers and a state normal team. This year the game is spreading and half a dozen contests will be played by the local team. In baseball and basketball the Quakers rank with the best teams of Kansas and Oklahoma. In the past ten years there have graduated from the college courses of the university something like two hundred students. A large number of these have continued their studies in the East. Many specialized and are now engaged in professions of all sorts in various parts of the United States. In the past five years a dozen graduates of Friends have taken their diplomas of medicine, dental surgery or law from the best universities of the country. Two scholarships are given annually to the graduates of Friends University. One of these is offered by Haverford College, of Philadelphia, to the young man making the best record for four years at Friends. The other goes to the young woman with the best four years' record. It is given by Earlham College, of Richmond, Ind. The opening enrollment of the university this year was close to 350. This shows a healthy increase over the enrollment for the first semester of last year. The faculty consists of fifteen capable professors, each a specialist in his line. In the training school department there are five instructors.

HISTORY OF FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE.

By

ANDREW P. SOLANDT.

The men who founded Wichita had great visions, intending to make the city a great commercial center. But even that did not satisfy them; they laid tremendous plans for making it also an intellectual center, so that in 1871 the first small schoolhouse was built, which, in 1887, had grown to a high school building and nine large public school buildings. Higher education was provided for in the following list: Garfield University, built at a cost of \$200,000, the building now being used by the Friends University on the West Side. It comprised a college of law, college of medicine, a college of arts, a college of theology and

a college of commerce. It opened its door to students and survived for a few years. The Wichita University of the Reformed Church of America, built on College Hill, the fine building now owned by Catholic Sisters. It also opened its door to students for a few years. Judson University, under the care of the Baptists, was projected with the following departments: University, academy, college of liberal arts, school of theology, college of music and college of fine arts. They claimed assets of \$400,000, but I cannot find that they ever enrolled any students.

John Bright University, under the Society of Friends, claimed \$300,000 in money and lands to establish an institution here. The Presbyterian College, it was claimed, had \$200,000 to begin work with.

Other institutions were: Lewis Academy, Brothers Academy, Southwestern Business College and the Kansas Military Institute.

In 1886 Rev. J. H. Parker, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church of Wichita, not wishing his denomination to be outdone by the churches represented in the foregoing list, proposed founding in the city a ladies' college, that was to be the Vassar of the West. Interesting a few friends in his plan, they advertised for bids of money and lands. Several being sent in, they chose the spot where Fairmount College building now stands, on account of its high elevation and the large amount of money and land given by the friends of that vicinity. The growth of his plans was so rapid that the next year he decided to enlarge the board of trustees from five to fifteen and change the name to Fairmount College, under which a state charter was obtained. Rev. J. H. Parker was elected president of the board of trustees, other members being: H. A. Clifford, W. J. Corner, H. H. Richards and F. G. Stark. The institution was to be under the care of the Evangelical Congregational churches.

Hon. J. J. Ingalls and G. C. Strong served on the board of trustees when the board membership was increased to fifteen. Bids were called for, plans adopted, and the present college main building erected. A committee was appointed to search for and engage a president at a salary not to exceed \$3,000 a year, and Rev. S. S. Mathews, of Boston, was called.

Financial troubles began, the trustees appealed to the citizens of Wichita with small result, and after spending \$40,000 on the building the property was sold to satisfy claims, passing into the

hands of D. B. Wesson. Therefore the first corporation known as Fairmount College never opened its door to students.

Before the commercial panic all the educational institutions of a high grade fell into ruins, Fairmount College alone rising later into vigorous life. The population of Wichita decreased ten thousand in two years, much property was deserted and many houses were moved from Fairmount and vicinity or sold for a trifle of their cost. With the slow return of better conditions Fairmount Institute was organized as a legal corporation, to which D. B. Wesson conveyed what is now Fairmount College main building and some surrounding land, the corporation agreeing to pay off the mortgage still hanging over the property. This action was taken March 7, 1892, the institute applying for the endorsement of the state association of Congregational churches. The first and only prospectus issued by the Fairmount Institute is dated June 15, 1892. It gives the board of trustees with Rev. R. M. Tunnel as president of the board, also principal of the institute. Nine other clergymen were on the board, as well as W. J. Corner and H. A. Clifford, of the original Fairmount College board. H. T. Cramer was treasurer, and last, but most important of all, we find the names of J. M. Knapp and R. L. Holmes, who ever since have faithfully served on the board. Besides Mr. Tunnel the faculty consisted of Miss Della M. Smoke, Miss Marie Mathis and Dr. E. W. Hoss.

The founders of the institute declared it to be their intention to establish a school that shall rank as high for classical scholarship as the far-famed Phillips academies, at Andover, Mass., and Exeter, N. H., and in addition the institute shall be co-educational and practical.

The Bible shall be thoroughly studied, also English, mathematics and the ancient and modern languages. Any person not less than twelve years of age and having a moderate education may enter. September 15, 1892, Fairmount Institute opened its doors to students. The number enrolling the first year cannot be found. The institute obtained the recognition of the Congregational Educational Society of Boston, and in the session of 1894-95 enrolled seventy-eight students. The next year the institute took on new life by the coming of forty students and several teachers from Garfield University, which had been forced to close its doors.

June 22, 1894, the trustees voted to develop the institute as

rapidly as possible into a college, Mr. J. M. Knapp making the motion, seconded by Mr. Graves. This was done after a long and heated discussion. Principal Tunnel immediately resigned, as well as many of the trustees. Mr. Tunnel, however, agreed to remain principal until other arrangements could be made. The courses in the institute were considerably expanded.

August 4, 1894, Mr. W. H. Isely was elected member of the faculty. Born in Brown county, Kansas, of Swiss-French parentage, educated at Ottawa and Harvard universities, he came with youth, energy and a fine education to begin his long and splendid career at Fairmount as professor and dean.

The institute felt the power of his leading mind, and rapid development ensued, leading to the calling of Dr. N. J. Morrison to be president, June 11, 1895. Dr. Morrison came indorsed by the Educational Society of Boston and invited by them and the trustees to take charge of the school and develop it as rapidly as seemed best into a first class college. Mr. Morrison brought with him Prof. Paul Roulet, of Springfield, Mo., who had been associated with him for fourteen years in Drury College.

March 30, 1896, the trustees of Fairmount Institute voted to give up their charter and reorganize as Fairmount College. The April following the state of Kansas issued a new charter granting full college and university rights and privileges to Fairmount College of Wichita, and the Congregational Educational Society of Boston approved of their action. The charter declares that it is the intention of the trustees to establish on a broad and permanent foundation a college of the first rank, this school to be positively, aggressively and wholly Christian in the evangelical sense, but in no wise sectarian; to fashion young men and women in knowledge and in character for the best citizenship in a Christian state of the Nineteenth Century. July, 1896, Miss Flora Clough was elected dean of women and professor of English literature, which positions she still fills with gracious efficiency.

The following September the college opened with a faculty of thirteen, all finely equipped mentally and determined to work harmoniously together to build up a strong and efficient Christian college. Prof. Paul Roulet, besides being professor of mathematics and French, at once began to build up a library, thus laying the foundation of our splendid collection of books.

The building now known as Holyoke Cottage was purchased and refitted as a ladies' dormitory, which purpose it has filled

since. The college year was divided into three terms—fall, winter and spring; and three degrees were given—B. A., at the close of the classical course; B. S., at the close of the scientific course, and B. L., at the close of the literary course. At the end of the year, June, 1897, there were 154 students. Fifty-one of these were in the college department, which consisted of three classes—Junior, Sophomore and Freshman.

June, 1898, the college graduated its first class—a class of nine—and had an enrollment of 179, and a spirit of strong hopefulness cheered everyone.

The next years were marked by steady advance in the number of students, in the size of the faculty, in improvement in the main building, by fitting up additional rooms, and by many hardships regarding street car connection with the city. At one time it was even necessary to run a hack line between Fairmount and the corner of Hillside and Douglas, but finally the old mule cars gave way to the splendid and efficient electric service of the present time. Through these pioneer years the faculty were loyal and self-sacrificing to an extent little known by the general public, and there began to develop the Fairmount spirit among them and the students that has characterized the institution ever since.

Theodore H. Morrison, a son of President Morrison, was appointed assistant librarian June 24, 1898, and has been connected with the library ever since, much of its splendid efficiency being due to him. In January, 1900, D. K. Pearsons, the millionaire college builder of Chicago, offered \$50,000 if the friends of the college would raise \$150,000. The attempt to raise this amount failed in part, but sufficient was collected to induce Dr. Pearsons to give \$25,000. Rugby Hall, the two-story brick building now occupied by a grocery store on Vassar avenue, was sold after having been used for several years as a boys' residence.

April 8, 1903, Prof. Roulet died. He was a native of French Switzerland, coming to Fairmount with Dr. Morrison. His long and successful experience as a teacher and his training as a business man greatly helped in building up Fairmount, and especially the library, of which he was the first librarian. His picture hangs in the main hall of the Fairmount College library. Prof. A. P. Solandt succeeded him the same year.

In order to bring the college and its claims before the people of Wichita and vicinity, E. M. Leach was appointed field secre-

tary, in 1904. Through his energy the college was widely advertised, especially through the Arkansas Valley Interscholastic Meet, of which he was the founder. To this gathering all high schools for miles around are invited annually to send their best athletes, orators and readers, Fairmount College being host, its students not competing, but helping in every way to make the gathering a success. It meets annually in May and the attendance several times has been two thousand.

The Fiske family of Boston for years had been firm friends and supporters of Fairmount. In 1904 Mrs. Fiske gave \$2,500 to start a fund to build a boys' dormitory. Other friends contributed and the trustees erected the present splendid building, said to be the finest dormitory in the state. Two years afterwards it was completed and opened for use, and very appropriately named Fiske Hall.

This same year the trustees applied to Andrew Carnegie, of New York, for money with which to build a library building. After due consideration and arrangement of terms he granted \$40,000 with which to erect the beautiful building now standing on the college grounds.

Several years of steady progress followed until 1907. In April of that year, after a short illness, President N. J. Morrison died. As a college builder he will long be remembered as one of the founders of Olivet College, in Michigan. After leaving there, in 1873, he founded Drury College, at Springfield, Mo., of which he was for fourteen years president, leaving it with many splendid buildings and a large endowment. Later he was professor of philosophy in Marietta College, in Ohio. From there he came to Fairmount, where he worked with devotion and success until his death.

In August of the same year Fairmount suffered another serious loss in the death of its dean, W. H. Isely, called away in the prime of life. He left a record of self-sacrificing industry not easily surpassed. As a teacher, member of the city government of Wichita, official in the Wichita Chamber of Commerce and the Kansas National Guard, his loss was widely and keenly felt.

After careful consideration and extensive correspondence the trustees invited Rev. Henry E. Thayer, D. D., of Topeka, Kan., to become president. He accepted, and at once entered upon

his duties with energy and success, bringing to bear on every question the ability of a man of wide vision and long experience in public affairs.

January, 1910, the new library was formally dedicated and opened to use. The furniture, through the generosity of Mrs. L. S. Carter, was all in place and the main floor presented a beautiful and appropriate appearance. This floor contains reading rooms and office and delivery desk. On the second floor are found the Carter memorial room, all within it being furnished by Mrs. L. S. Carter, and contains, besides the splendid library furniture, a large number of sumptuously bound books; the Library Club room, the meeting place of the Fairmount Ladies' Library Club, which for many years had worked faithfully and successfully in forwarding the interests of the library; another room is occupied by the Daughters of the American Revolution, and now contains many articles illustrating the early history of the country. Still another room contains the beginnings of a college museum. At present it is mainly occupied by a large number of articles from Palestine illustrating the life and customs of the people of that country. Dr. Selah Merrill, a friend of the late President Morrison, made the collection while United States minister at Jerusalem.

The college gymnasium, a modest but commodious building, was erected recently on the campus through the efforts of the student body, and serves as headquarters for the athletic interests of the college. For a number of years Fairmount has had a regular coach, and their teams in football, basketball, track and baseball have been conspicuously successful in standing for clean athletics and winning many honors, considering the size of the college.

Efficient and prosperous literary societies are maintained by the students, doing much to advance the interest in public speaking and sociability. Among the ladies are Sorosis and Alpha Tau Sigma for the college girls, and Philomathean for those of the academy, and among the men Webster and the Counsel societies.

Such is the story, in part, of these years of sacrifice, struggle and achievement, and the college is proud to think that with each succeeding year it is sending an increasing band of young people into the world, who bring to all the duties of life, the ability of a trained mind and the devotion of a Christian conscience.

Proud on thy mountain, sunlight gleaming from thy tower,
Pure Wisdom's fountain, truth and honors bower.
While our boundless prairies yield their fruits from year to year,
May thy thousands ever hold thy name more dear.
Fairmount forever; here we raise a song of praise,
Fairmount, blest Fairmount, to eternal days.

FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE.

One of the strongest Congregational schools in the West is Fairmount College. It commenced the school year of 1910-11 with an enrollment of more than 300 students. It is noted for its broad democratic tone and character building environment. The college buildings are located on Fairmount in the eastern part of the city. A college building erected at a cost of \$60,000, a library building costing \$25,000, a men's dormitory costing \$15,000, a gymnasium and other buildings compose the college. Fairmount is one of the highly accredited colleges of the state and has always enjoyed a good reputation.

The president of Fairmount College is H. E. Thayer, one of the broadminded college presidents of the West. He is a thorough scholar and is full of rugged western progressive ideas. He took the school at the death of Dr. Morrison, one of the most beloved college presidents in the state and the father of Fairmount academy and college. The dean of the college of liberal arts is S. S. Kingsbury, a professor of broad culture and much executive ability. A complete college training is given in Fairmount. The science faculty is unusually well equipped with strong men. The laboratories are complete and up to the minute. A classical element pervades the school and strong philosophy courses can be given. Considerable special work is done in the college. Prowess in athletics has always been a characteristic of Fairmount College. The gymnasium is well equipped to take care of the training of the men and all athletics is under the supervision of a competent coach. All students entering Fairmount are compelled to take a certain amount of exercise and their development is noted carefully. A rule was adopted last year compelling all those who desired to enter the more violent form of athletics, such as football and basketball, to pass a heart examination. The faculty did this in order that no student should be seriously injured in these games because of physical

unfitness. That is the way the Fairmount officials look after the students; they are always on the alert to help them or advise.

A feature of Fairmount College, which is almost as famous as Wichita itself, is the Fairmount library. This is one of the largest college libraries in the state. The new Carnegie library building was first occupied in 1909. The library comprises 3,100 bound volumes and 50,000 pamphlets and papers. The library is in charge of a skillful librarian and assistants and the books are carefully catalogued. The library is used not only by the students of the college but is open to the residents of Wichita. The history of Fairmount College is one of disappointment and discouragement and yet one of great achievement as well. The academy was opened in 1892. In 1895 the idea of a college, advanced in the previous year, took root, and the college was established. In 1899 the first degrees from the college of liberal arts were given. Ever since its genesis Fairmount seems to have had debt shadowing and hindering it on every side. But in spite of it remarkable progress has been made. Through endowments from friends of the college in the East the indebtedness has been cut down and now Fairmount sees a dawn of new things. A great future is in store for the college and all the troubles and worries of the strong, zealous, early day men, Dr. Morrison, Prof. Isley and others, will be recompensed when Fairmount stands free and clear—a democratic school where young men and young women are taught that education should be means to a good end.

MOUNT CARMEL ACADEMY.

Mount Carmel Academy, one of the best known and most popular institutions in the Southwest, is situated two and one-half miles west of Wichita, in a campus covering fifty or sixty acres. The buildings are elegant and commodious and equipped with everything that lends itself to the cultivation of taste and refinement. The academy has an interesting history. It was opened in 1887 by five Sisters of Charity, who came from their mother house in Dubuque, Ia., at the invitation of the Rev. Father Casey. The ability of these sisters to conduct a successful school soon made itself felt, and the best citizens of Wichita, irrespective of religious convictions, sent their daughters to the academy. It must be said that the people of Wichita have always shown the

keenest appreciation of the work done at the academy. They have encouraged its growth in every possible way and are justly proud of its present high standing. In 1900 an addition to the original "All Hallows" became necessary and the south wing was put up at a cost of about \$60,000. In this addition are the chapel, the auditorium, the music studios, the reception rooms and the dining halls.

So great prosperity did the academy enjoy at that period that it was necessary to build again in 1906. This latest and chief addition is in perfect architectural harmony with the former wing and no expense was spared in the furnishing of the various apartments. These comprise the study halls, dormitories, recreation parlors, art studios, private rooms and observatory. On every floor of the building are bathing apartments supplied with hot and cold water. The building is heated with hot water and perfect ventilation is secured by a system installed in the construction. Every room is so situated as to admit an abundance of air and sunshine. No history of Mount Carmel, however brief, would be complete without the name of the Rt. Rev. J. J. Hennessy, who since his advent to the city has watched over the academy with fostering care. Notwithstanding the numerous demands on his attention as bishop of a large and prosperous diocese, he has given the interests of Mount Carmel his personal attention, has often sacrificed his time and comfort for its benefit, and many of the most beautiful ornaments in and around the building are the effects of his princely generosity.

CHAPTER XXXI.

THE PIONEER CHURCHES OF WICHITA, KAN.

By

C. S. CALDWELL.

I have been asked to prepare a short article giving the date of organization, the early history and experience of the pioneer churches of Wichita. This may seem at first thought to be an easy problem, but when we consider that there are more than forty churches in the city and twenty-five in the other towns and outlying districts of Sedgwick county, all of which are, in a sense, pioneer churches, the problem grows.

Another difficulty confronts the historian: The shifting population, the push and hurry incident to the opening of a new country, and building new cities produces an atmosphere that is not very favorable to the organization of churches and religious institutions, and many of them have failed to make and preserve a permanent record of their birth and early life, and before they are aware of it the early members and promoters have passed away, and their whole history becomes largely a matter of tradition only.

While the early history of these sixty-five churches would be very interesting, and would be in a permanent form for reference in years to come, it would not only extend this article beyond a reasonable limit, but would involve more time and labor than the writer has at his disposal, so this article will cover only the genesis of four or five parent churches of Wichita, whose organization dates prior to 1873.

When the writer saw Wichita for the first time, October 1, 1871, it was a very small Western cattle town, with Newton, the nearest railroad station, thirty miles away.

The few people that were here were chiefly young, unmarried men, or men who had left their families in the East and had

come West to take claims and prepare homes for those who were to follow.

We found that some settlement had been made as early as 1868. The city was platted in 1870, but it was still the uttermost ends of the earth—a hundred miles or more to the nearest railroad.

Devoted missionaries to the Indians and to the hardy pioneer settler had found their way to Wichita, and religious services were held as early as 1868, but no record can be found of any effort toward the organization of churches until 1870. Late in 1871 we found two organized churches—St. John's Episcopal and the First Presbyterian. These had been holding services more or less regularly for a year or more. The Methodist Episcopal and the Baptists had held religious services at irregular periods during this time, but had done much toward gathering up those who were the "lost sheep" of their house of Israel, and were favorably inclined toward these churches.

So far as is now known the first sermon preached in Wichita was by a Baptist minister by the name of Saxby, in the fall of 1868, at Durfee's ranch, on North Waco avenue, a short distance north of Murdock avenue. It was listened to with respectful attention by the motley little company that had come together to hear it, as many of them had not attended a religious service or heard a sermon for many years. As hymn books were exceedingly scarce in those days, the minister, at the close of the sermon, asked some one to start a familiar hymn. Some one started "John Brown's Body Lies a-Mouldering in the Grave." The hymn was sung lustily throughout and closed the services.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

An Episcopal clergyman by the name of John P. Hilton came some time in the fall of 1869 and filed upon a claim, now in the central part of the city, and began at once to gather material for the organization of a church, which was accomplished some time in the early spring of 1870; the exact date the writer has been unable to learn. The first services were held in the Munger Hotel, which subsequently became the home of Com. W. C. Woodman, and now the property of Mr. P. J. Conklin, on North Waco avenue, one block north of Murdock avenue.

In a short time, however, a rude chapel was constructed of cotton-wood logs, split and set in the ground after the fashion of a stockade and covered with logs and earth. This chapel was located on Market street, near where the courthouse now stands, and served as a place of worship for about two years. Photographs of this rude chapel may be seen today in many of the homes of the city. From this humble beginning St. John's Episcopal church has grown to a large and influential parish, occupying a fine stone church on the corner of Topeka and Third streets, and has organized several missions and churches in other parts of the city. Dr. P. J. Fenn is the present popular and efficient pastor.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN.

In October, 1869, W. K. Boggs, a Presbyterian minister, appeared upon the field and preached his first sermon in a dugout on North Waco avenue, near where Finlay Ross now resides. Services were held quite regularly all winter, and on the 13th of March, 1870, a church was organized with thirteen members, none of whom reside here now; most of them have passed away. Two or three are living somewhere in Oklahoma.

Robert E. Lawrence, residing on North Topeka avenue, attended a midweek prayer meeting in this dugout in the early spring of 1870. He was driving through this country in a carriage and had encamped for the night on the banks of the Little Arkansas river. He heard singing not far away, and, following the sound, soon found the little church, and spent a pleasant evening with them.

In the summer of 1870 the little band hauled green cotton-wood lumber from Emporia and erected a neat little frame chapel on the corner of Second and Wichita streets, which was a comfortable little church home for two years.

Dr. Boggs remained in charge of the work until late in the autumn of 1871, when he was succeeded by Rev. John P. Harsen as its first pastor. In the fall of 1872 this little chapel was sold to the Catholic church and moved to the corner of St. Francis and Second streets and used by them for chapel and school purposes for several years, when it was sold and moved to the sixth block on North Main street, where it now stands.

After selling their church the Presbyterians rented old Eagle Hall, and services were held there until 1877, when a small brick

church was completed and occupied, at the corner of First street and Lawrence avenue. This building was enlarged in 1883, and served as their church home for more than thirty years, Mr. Harsen remaining its pastor until 1879, and was succeeded by Rev. John D. Hewett.

This church has also prospered and taken a prominent position among the churches of Kansas, and has been instrumental in establishing and maturing to self support five other Presbyterian churches in the city, and is now engaged in the erection of a fine church building on the corner of Lawrence avenue and Elm street.

THE M. E. CHURCH.

The M. E. church had occasional services during 1871 by visiting clergymen. A class was formed and preparation made for the organization of a church as soon as the way would be open. This, however, was not accomplished until the early spring of 1872, when Rev. John F. Nessly became their first pastor. A Sunday school was organized and ex-Gov. W. E. Stanley was chosen as its first superintendent. A small church building was erected at once on the ground where the first church now stands, and until it was ready for occupancy their services were held in a frame schoolhouse, on the corner of Emporia avenue and Third street, where the new high school building is now being erected. Mr. Stanley remained at the head of this school for a score of years, and placed it among the largest Sunday schools of the state. With a long line of able and popular pastors the church grew apace, establishing several churches and missions in various parts of the city, some of them (St. Paul and Trinity) almost rivaling in strength and influence the parent church.

The present pastor, Dr. W. H. Heppe, is leading them out in a vigorous preparation for building a new house of worship where the old one now stands, to cost \$100,000, which will be pushed to completion in the near future.

THE FIRST BAPTIST.

While the Baptist church has the honor of being the first to proclaim the Gospel within the limits of the city of Wichita, they did not secure the organization of a working church until some

time in the spring of 1872. A Baptist layman, by name Sturgis, organized a Union Sunday school in the summer of 1871, and conducted it successfully until the spring of 1872, when Rev. John C. Post came and took charge of the work, organized a church and became their first pastor, and remained in charge of the church for several years.

This church has also taken its place among the leading churches of the city and state, a positive force for good in the city, its acts being known and read of all men who have kept pace with the religious growth and development of the city, and have just completed a new house of worship on the corner of Lawrence avenue and Second street, costing about \$75,000.

It may be an item of interest to those who knew and remember Father Post to learn that when a young man he was in the military service (Texas Rangers), and was in the army of Gen. Sam Houston when it marched to the relief of the little garrison in the besieged castle of The Alamo in 1836, but were too late to rescue them; but they completely routed the Mexican army that had murdered in detail the little band that had so heroically defended it.

These four pioneer pastors, all of them by the name of John, builded greater than they knew, laid foundations broad and deep. Others have entered upon their labors, have built and are continuing to build what will be monuments to them and the faithful few who stood with them in these days of trial and of small beginnings.

It was eight or ten years after this before the Reformed Church, the Central Christian, the Plymouth Congregational, the Friends and other churches were established. All of these and many others stand prominently among the churches of the city and deserve more than a passing notice, and if written up as they ought to be would make a large volume of very interesting history. I hope some capable pen will take it up and place the record where it will be preserved. The present generation, which has been so instrumental in establishing these churches amid the whirl and excitement of a busy commercial life, would very much enjoy sitting down in the evening of life and carefully perusing the record and handing it on down to coming generations.

Will not some one take it up before the records of these churches are lost or destroyed? I sincerely hope it will be done.

MONUMENTS TO THE PAST.

By

CLARENCE J. MARTIN.

The church steeple is a monument to the memory of the departed who have lived lives of truth, and a skyward pointed finger to those that yet live and are prone to go astray.

Every note of the ringing bell is a voice of approval to those who do right and a hammer-stroke of rebuke upon the heart of those that do wrong.

The American home is built in the shadow of the cathedral and felicity and love walk from the chancel rail hand in hand to bless the world. Childhood learns to pray in the pews and youth to love the truth. Old age lays down its burdens at the altar rail, lets go of fear and makes ready to depart.

The secular business of a city can be put upon a commercial basis and considered solely from the view-point of dollars and cents without the necessity of including any moral issue in the consideration. It is not so with a church or a religious society. While the money value of a church or parsonage is a valuable asset to any city, the uplifting moral effect upon a community produced by the presence of the chapel and the rectory cannot be computed by any system of finance.

The church and business have mutual interests. Each has made possible the prosperity of the other, and religion, education and business have made Wichita a city where to live is life indeed.

For over forty years, since the time her first congregation gathered to attend the first religious service conducted in the city, Wichita, has honored and given place to the church, and now the spires of the places devoted to religious worship pierce the air from the very heart of the city to the limits of the far suburb.

Wichita does not aspire to be called "the city of churches," but is satisfied to patronize those she has and build others as fast as her growth justifies.

For long years the idea has prevailed that religion was entirely apart from business, but in Wichita the falsity of that idea has been proved in the fact that many of the wealthiest, most successful business men, politicians and public officers are closely

associated with all kinds of religious activity, holding offices of responsibility in the various churches.

They have proved that piety and progress are not at variance and that salvation and sense can be mixed without neutralizing either.

From the rude building, constructed of slabs from a sawmill, with its dirt roof, where the early citizens met for worship forty-two years ago, to the magnificent structures in many parts of the city today, is an almost startling transition.

Wichita has more than sixty religious societies and as many as fifty edifices devoted to religious worship, while immense mission enterprises are found throughout the city.

The total membership of all the denominations is above 13,000, and the Sunday schools have a combined membership of over 12,000.

The total valuation of the church properties is greatly in excess of \$1,000,000.

The valuation of the several church buildings are:

Baptist churches	\$ 85,500
Christian churches	73,000
Congregational churches	69,000
Episcopal churches	83,000
Friends churches	7,000
Presbyterian churches	188,500
Methodist Episcopal churches	232,500
United Brethren churches	19,500
United Presbyterian churches	8,500
German Evangelical churches	15,000
Catholic churches	145,000
Colored Baptist church	30,000
African M. E. church.....	10,000
M. E. Colored church.....	2,000
Dunkard church	8,000
Reformed church (Brown Memorial).....	25,000
Universalist church	15,000
Salvation Army	35,000
Free Methodist church	3,000
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Total valuation	\$1,074,500

Members of the various denominations number as follows:

Baptist churches	1,295
Christian churches	1,507
Congregational churches	700
Episcopal churches	540
Friends churches	710
Methodist Episcopal churches	2,965
Presbyterian churches	1,943
United Brethren churches	322
United Presbyterian churches	180
German Evangelical church	50
Catholic churches	2,140
Colored Baptist church	300
African M. E. church.....	200
Negro M. E. church.....	50
Dunkard church	175
Reformed church (Brown Memorial).....	105
Universalist church	100
Salvation Army	100
Free Methodist church	50
Total	13,480

After conversation with conservative business men and those familiar with conditions in the city, it is certain that there is much property devoted to religious purposes held by other denominations, whose holdings are not included in the above list.

For years the general work of the churches of the city has been augmented by the existence of a strong ministerial association, which was organized to bring the pastors of the different churches together at regular intervals, where papers are read and discussions on helpful themes are held.

The work of the association reaches further than mere denominational lines, and one result of the organization of the alliance has been to produce a better spirit of fraternalism among the ministers themselves, which has had its effect on every parish represented in bringing about co-operation in all lines of Christian work.

Several churches in the city have also become engaged in foreign missionary work and are supporting missionaries in China,

Japan, India, Africa, South America, Korea, Mexico and Alaska. This is aside from the regular mission work of the denominations and is carried on by the local churches, each church assuming the responsibility of supporting one or more missionaries.

Ardent zeal and sane optimism will be the guides for all future religious enterprises in Wichita, because successful business men are the builders and supporters of these Christian institutions. They will not, in moments of enthusiasm, construct large and costly edifices and then leave them to be occupied by the moles and bats. They will fill them and thrill them with brain and red blood and maintain in them a spirituality void of cant and whine and a sincerity as refreshing as the morning dew, and in the future, whatever is characteristic of progress in religious life in the West will be found in the churches of Wichita.

WICHITA'S FIRST CHURCH.

By

HATTIE PALMER.

(In the "Kansas Magazine.")

Trade follows the flag, but civilization follows the church. In the frontier days of Kansas the Indian trading post and store was the first institution erected. Immediately afterward came the saloon to bid for a portion of the circulating capital. Soon afterward, a worthy competitor of the saloon, and companion of the trading post, came the church.

Wichita's first church was not an imposing structure. Architecturally, it was not even so imposing as the "Bon Ton Saloon," operated by Charlie Schattner, the good-natured German in the next block. The first church was in striking contrast to the magnificent structure of the Baptist denomination which is now nearing completion in that city. Forty years have made great changes in Wichita, and the churches of the two periods might show the extreme of the development. Wichita's first house of worship did not cost a cent. The last one nearing completion will cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000. But it is different now, and times have changed.

Early in the spring of 1868, the hundred or so people on the present townsite of Wichita discussed the advisability of erecting

a church. They had passed through the winter without a house of worship, and many of them were homesick for a real church. It was reasoned that if a church were built it would draw the people together in more common bonds of sympathy and would make it possible to enjoy at least one of the benefits of the civilization which they had so recently left.

But the church was slow in materializing. Money was scarce; people were too busy providing for a home of their own, and there was not much enthusiasm generally in the church proposition. But the faithful kept tirelessly at work. An Episcopal minister had recently arrived from England, and he put new energy into the work of building the church. J. R. Mead, now deceased, came forward with an offer to give the ground for the structure. Then William Smith, a sawmill man, who had moved to the place with his machinery, offered the refuse slabs from the cottonwood logs around his mill down near the Arkansas river. Enthusiasm grew with the summer and by the time the grass was green and the flowers were blooming out on the prairie, the church was commenced.

All of the townsmen turned out and gave a helping hand to the erection of the new church. The cottonwood slabs were hauled from the mill and within a week after active operations were commenced the church was completed and ready for occupancy. The building was about thirty feet long by twelve feet wide. Posts of cottonwood logs were placed at the corners and at intervals on the sides. To these were nailed the slabs in a vertical position. Two windows were made on each side and a wide door was built in the front end. The roof was so low that a person of ordinary height was compelled to stoop on entering. While the sides of the structure were of wood, the roof was made of dirt. Boards were laid across from the side beams and on these was piled the earth, giving the roof an oval shape to turn aside the rain. But as it did not rain very often in those days, a waterproof roof was not considered in the plans. The boards upon which the earth was piled protruded in an uneven and zigzag fashion around the eaves. The antique style which is so popular at the present time would find many opportune suggestions in that first church.

Notwithstanding the crudeness of the outside appearance, the church was snug within. It was nicely seated with benches and through the efforts of the pastor's wife a carpet was spread on the bare floor. She worked night and day to make the church

building homelike and inviting, and many tireless hours were spent in beautifying the interior to make it look like a real church and providing for the comforts which would attract the rough men of the village.

The Rev. J. P. Hilton was the first pastor, and he served in that capacity until the church was torn down two years later and a more imposing structure was erected. The Rev. Hilton was an Englishman and, it is said, he was one of the finest readers who ever expounded the Episcopal faith in Wichita or in Kansas. He was an earnest preacher, and with his estimable wife did much to preserve the spiritual dignity of the border settlement. He left Wichita in the early seventies and died a few years later at some place in the eastern part of the country.

Immediately after the church was completed, the entire population of the village turned out, and a group photograph was taken. The new church was a matter of concern to every citizen in the town and they were proud of their work. Prominent in the first picture were the vestrymen. That it was a cosmopolitan congregation is shown by the list of officers and their vocations. Among the vestrymen was William B. Hutchinson, the editor of the "Vidette," the first paper published in Wichita. Hutchinson was considerable of a "rounder" and was known as a bad man. Charles Schattner, the proprietor of the "Bon Ton" saloon, was another vestryman. Another was George Richards, a tramp printer. "Doctor" William Dow was another. He was a professional gambler, and many shootings and killings were pulled off at his resort at that time. The cowboys and the wandering gamblers made his place their headquarters and there was always danger for the unwary and the slow-on-the-trigger when the liquor began to flow and the cowpuncher's luck went against him at the poker table. The name of John Edward Martin completed the roll of the vestrymen.

The location of the church, which was in the first block north of the court house, on Main street, facing west, came near causing a killing. A few months after the church was erected, several of the members wanted it moved to a new location. Mr. Mead, who had given the original site for the building, offered it a new location near what is now the corner of Main street and Douglas avenue—the heart of Wichita. At that time the business portion of the town was in the neighborhood of Central avenue, four blocks from the present center of business activity. Mr. Mead owned the

quarter section along Douglas avenue extending from Lawrence avenue to the Arkansas river. Mr. Mead was convinced that in time the business section of the city would be located there. However, some of the members of the congregation and officers thought differently, and a great discussion arose about the new location. William Hutchinson disliked Mr. Mead on account of the fact that the latter had fought against the principles for which the former stood. Hutchinson was a tough, while Mr. Mead stood for the law and decency. As a consequence, the two men had many differences and stormy meetings frequently occurred. At the meeting called to discuss the removal of the church to the new site, Hutchinson inferred that Mr. Mead regretted the donation of the building site for the church and was planning to get the building moved away in order that he might use the plot of ground for speculative purposes. Hutchinson declared that Mr. Mead's desire to have the church removed farther south was prompted only by mercenary motives. He made a fiery speech against the proposition, in which he said: "I don't care a d—n what the rest of you think of this change, but I want to go on record as being against any move to cheat Jesus Christ out of a foot of ground." The congregation was unable to agree, and as a result the church was not moved to the new location. The site offered by Mr. Mead is now worth many thousands of dollars.

It was a democratic congregation which assembled on Sunday morning to listen to the Rev. Hilton. The saloon-keepers and gamblers, who were the vestrymen, were true to their offices and were regular attendants at the services, as well as the best people of the town. It was the only church building in the section, and members of all denominations were urged to come and take part in the worship. Several people who are now residents of Wichita were members of that first congregation and many others are scattered throughout the country, while the greater number is dead.

The cowboys were also present at the services at different times. Church-going with them, however, was more of a novelty than a duty. When they came to town they came to see all of the sights, and the church was one of them. They were able to come to town not more than two or three times a year, and they stayed as long as their money lasted. The cowpuncher within seventy-five miles of Wichita who had not been an attendant at the little church was the exception and was looked down upon

by his fellows. To miss it was like going to New York City and failing to see the Bowery or a visit to San Francisco which omitted the trip to Chinatown. Their horses were tethered on the outside and their decorum, while attending the services, was most admirable. They were devout as far as silence and attention were concerned. They held the church confines sacred and no guns were ever drawn within its portals. Differences often sprang up on the outside and blood stained the steps, but when the provocation arose which demanded redress at the pistol's point it was settled without desecrating the house of God.

Following the erection of the Episcopal church, the Presbyterians were the next to build. Their church was a more modern building than the first church, but there was probably no church ever erected which served its purpose better than the rude slab and dirt structure erected in 1868, where the saloon-keeper and the pious worshiped in common with one another. The church was torn down after it had done service for more than two years, and the congregation moved into a store building which was fitted up as a church. In the early seventies several other congregations started their churches in the vacant store buildings. These offered better accommodations than the old slab structure. Many of the rooms served for other purposes, and when Sunday arrived the benches were taken from the piles in the alley and placed in position for the worshipers.

The growth of the "church industry" in Wichita is typical of all Kansas. The forty years which have passed since the little low structure was erected have seen many wonderful strides in all lines. Less than a half mile from the site of the dirt-thatched structure there is nearing completion a new church building. It is of solid stone; it shows the perfection of the architect's and craftsman's skill. It is built with the view of beauty, comfort and durability, and it cost thousands and thousands of dollars, but it represents not an iota more of the earnestness and devotion which inspired the erection of the cottonwood slab and dirt structure which housed the first congregation of worshipers in Wichita.

WICHITA CHURCHES OF TODAY.

From a wild and woolly frontier town in the early eighties, Wichita has been transformed into a city of schools and churches. Nearly every denomination is represented, and churches are now

building in this city that will cost \$150,000 each. The following is a list of churches and church societies in this city:

Seventh Day Adventist Church. Dodge avenue, southeast corner Burton avenue; membership, 150; pastor, Rev. James Morrow; residence, No. 207 North Dodge.

First Baptist Church. Lawrence avenue, northwest corner Second; organized 1873; membership, 900; pastor, Rev. G. W. Cassidy; residence, No. 1203 North Wichita.

New Hope Baptist Church (Colored). No. 446 North Rock Island avenue; organized 1889; membership, 200; pastor, Rev. E. T. Fishback (colored); residence, No. 827 North Washington avenue.

Second Baptist Church (Colored). Water, northwest corner Elm; pastor, Rev. G. W. Smith (colored); residence, No. 212 West Elm.

Tabernacle Baptist Church (Colored). No. 834 North Water; pastor, Rev. M. L. Copeland (colored); residence, No. 1015 North Wichita.

West Side Baptist Church. Walnut, southwest corner Burton avenue; pastor, Rev. W. A. Ayres; residence, No. 212 South Exposition avenue.

St. Aloysius Pro-Cathedral Church. St. Francis avenue, southeast corner Second; rector, Rt. Rev. J. H. Tihen; residence, No. 244 St. Francis avenue.

St. Anthony German Catholic Church. Ohio avenue, southeast corner Second; pastor, Rev. C. B. Schoeppner; residence, No. 256 Ohio avenue.

Central Christian Mission. Fifteenth, northwest corner Market; organized 1910; membership, 50; pastor, Rev. E. A. Newby.

Christian Central Church of Christ. Market, southeast corner Second; organized 1880; membership, 1,200; pastor, Rev. Walter S. Priest; residence, No. 724 North Lawrence avenue.

Christian Church of Christ. No. 201 Mathewson avenue; pastor, Rev. W. F. Parmiter; residence, 1806 North Waco avenue.

South Lawrence Avenue Christian Church. No. 1132 South Lawrence avenue; organized 1888; membership, 350; pastor, Rev. C. C. St. Clair; residence, No. 114 East Gilbert.

First Church of Christ Christian Scientist. No. 259 North Lawrence avenue; organized 1880; membership, 140; first reader, Mrs. A. M. McCune; second reader, Joel Tucker.

Second Church of Christ Christian Scientist. No. 217 North

Lawrence avenue; organized 1908; membership, 52; first reader, Mrs. M. T. Jocelyn; second reader, E. E. Cornelius.

College Hill Congregational Church. Clifton avenue, northeast corner First; organized 1909; membership, 105; pastor, Rev. W. W. Bolt; residence, Lawrence, Kan.

Fairmount Congregational Church. Fairmount avenue, southwest corner Sixteenth; organized 1892; membership, 130; pastor, Rev. L. C. Markham; residence, 3235 East Twelfth.

Fellowship Congregational Church (Institutional). Kellogg, northeast corner Pattie avenue; organized 1905; membership, 130; pastor, Rev. J. Hammond Tice; residence, No. 925 Pattie avenue.

Plymouth Congregational Church. Lawrence avenue, southeast corner Second; organized 1883; membership, 464; pastor, Rev. N. O. Bartholomew; residence, 1439 North Topeka avenue.

Dunkard Brethren Church. St. Francis avenue, southeast corner Eleventh; pastor, Rev. Jacob Funk; residence, 1105 Wabash avenue.

Dunkard Church. Fifteenth, northeast corner Grove; membership, 40; pastor, Rev. Samuel M. Brown; residence, 1554 Riddell.

All Saints' Episcopal Church. No. 216 South Handley avenue; organized 1906; membership, 30; rector, Rev. Robert Flockhart; rooms, 1624 University avenue.

St. John's Episcopal Church. No. 402 North Topeka avenue; rector, Rev. P. T. Fenn; residence, 416 East Third.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. First, northwest corner New York; organized 1907; membership, 40; rector, Rev. John E. Flockhart; rooms, 1624 University avenue.

Friends Church. No. 124 Cleveland avenue.

Friends North End Church. Main, southwest corner Twenty-first; pastor, Rev. O. A. Winslow; residence, 2147 North Main.

Friends University Church. Hiram avenue, west end University avenue; organized 1899; membership, 500; pastor, Rev. L. E. Stout; residence, 510 South Fern avenue.

German Evangelical Church. Market, northwest corner Waterman; organized 1889; membership, 45; pastor, Rev. Karl Feldman; residence, 114 East Waterman.

St. Paul's English Evangelical Lutheran Church. Meets in Philharmony Hall, No. 217 North Lawrence avenue; organized

1909; membership, 50; pastor, Rev. G. G. Clark; residence, 919 South Emporia avenue.

College Hill Methodist Episcopal Church. First, northwest corner Erie avenue; organized 1908; membership, 110; pastor, Rev. W. T. Ward; residence, 119 South Estelle avenue.

Emporia Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church. Emporia avenue, southwest corner Dewey avenue; organized 1878; membership, 400; pastor, Rev. C. D. Hestwood; residence, 603 South Emporia avenue.

First Free Methodist Church. No. 1102 Anderson avenue; pastor, Rev. F. S. Atwell; residence, 1104 Anderson avenue.

First Methodist Episcopal Church. No. 326 North Lawrence avenue; membership, 1,200; pastor, Rev. W. H. Heppe; residence, 421 North Topeka avenue.

German Methodist Episcopal Church. Lulu avenue, southwest corner Prince; organized 1878; membership, 100; pastor, Rev. C. L. Koerner; residence, No. 437 Ida avenue.

Harry Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Harry, southwest corner Main; organized 1907; membership, 100; pastor, Rev. R. A. Spencer; residence, No. 1431 South Wichita.

St. Paul's African Methodist Episcopal Church (Colored). No. 523 North Water; pastor, Rev. James T. Smith (colored); residence, No. 521 North Water.

St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church. Lawrence avenue, southeast corner Thirteenth; organized 1887; membership, 600; pastor, Rev. G. E. Pickard; residence, No. 1547 Park place.

Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church. Martinson avenue, southwest corner Maple; organized 1881; membership, 500; pastor, Rev. A. B. Hestwood; residence, No. 415 South Martinson avenue.

Calvary Presbyterian Church. No. 1900 North Market; organized 1895; membership, 122; pastor, Rev. G. R. Anderson; residence, 1841 North Market.

College Hill United Presbyterian Church. Green avenue, southwest corner First; pastor, Rev. William N. Leeper; residence, 229 North Estelle avenue.

First Presbyterian Church. No. 340 North Market; organized 1870; membership, 900; pastor, Rev. Thomas Parry; residence, 1039 North Lawrence avenue.

First United Presbyterian Church. No. 1122 East First; pastor, J. A. Greer; residence, No. 207 Ohio avenue.

Grace Presbyterian Church. No. 124 Cleveland avenue; organized May 12, 1909; membership, 160; pastor, Rev. Charles W. Blake; residence, No. 303 Mathewson avenue.

Lincoln Street Presbyterian Church. Emporia avenue, northeast corner Lincoln; organized 1885; membership, 200; pastor, Rev. J. T. May; residence, No. 915 Pattie avenue.

Linwood Presbyterian Chapel. Harry, southeast corner Laura avenue; pastor, Rev. J. T. May; residence, No. 915 Pattie avenue.

Oak Street Presbyterian Church. South Murdock avenue, opposite Cherry; organized 1887; membership, 150; pastor, Rev. E. P. Elcock; residence, No. 802 Cleveland avenue.

West Side Presbyterian Church. Dodge avenue, northwest corner Texas avenue; organized 1890; membership, 250; pastor, Rev. W. M. Irwin; residence, No. 121 South Dodge avenue.

Brown Memorial Reformed Church. South Topeka avenue, southeast corner Lewis; organized 1885; membership, 180; pastor, Rev. Samuel B. Yockey; residence, No. 921 South Emporia avenue.

American Salvation Army. No. 528 West Douglas avenue; Capt. James Pernet.

The Salvation Army. Nos. 126-128 North Topeka avenue; Adj. Fred M. Andrus; Lieut. Wilson Law.

First Unitarian Church. Central avenue, southeast corner Topeka avenue; organized 1886; pastor, Rev. Edward Day; residence, No. 3215 East Douglas avenue.

First United Brethren Church. No. 200 South Washington avenue; organized 1882; membership, 220; pastor, Rev. E. H. Wilson; residence, No. 212 South Washington avenue.

United Brethren, Kriebel Chapel. No. 1129 Hendryx avenue; organized 1906; membership, 45; pastor, Rev. D. H. Sill; residence, 817 Munnell avenue.

Waco Avenue United Brethren Church. Waco avenue, corner Eleventh street; organized 1905; membership, 59; pastor, Rev. J. E. Wilson; residence, No. 1309 Jackson avenue.

First Universalist Church. Market street, corner Kellogg street; organized 1901; membership, 110; pastor, Rev. G. A. King; residence, 121 East Kellogg street.

In favor of the moral uplift of the city it can be said that all of the churches and church societies are in a most flourishing condition.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

By

CLIFFORD PIERCE,

General Secretary.

The first Young Men's Christian Association meeting in Wichita was held in the office of Dr. W. M. Johnson, October 23, 1885.

The call for this meeting read as follows:

"Believing that the Young Men's Christian Association is an instrument in the hands of God for doing good, and a means of grace of peculiar advantage to young men, and that our city needs such an organization, therefore we, a few of the young men of the various churches in Wichita, have called a preliminary meeting for the purpose of completing, as soon as possible, the organization, hoping, by the assistance of God and all good Christians, to be able to place the organization on a firm footing."

Those present:

A. A. Hyde,	A. D. Morgan,	E. D. Kimball,
H. L. Smithson,	F. A. North,	Dr. W. M. Johnson,
O. A. Delong,	A. D. Phelps,	C. P. Mueller.

Mr. A. A. Hyde, who is now president of the association, was chosen chairman of the first meeting, and C. P. Mueller, still a prominent member, was elected secretary.

At this meeting the principal question was: "Do we want a Young Men's Christian Association in Wichita?" This was settled in the affirmative by a unanimous vote. This group of men went to work at once and on November 6, 1885, called a meeting for permanent organization. Mr. Robert Weidensall, of the International Committee, and now the oldest employed officer in America of the Young Men's Christian Association, was present and assisted in perfecting the organization.

The "committee on nomination" retired from the meeting and later reported the following "ticket," which was unanimously elected, and these men became the first officers of the Young Men's Christian Association of Wichita:

President J. C. Rutan.
 Vice-President—A. A. Hyde.
 Corresponding Secretary—J. Y. Montague.
 Recording Secretary—Harry Evans.
 Treasurer—A. F. Rowe.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

W. M. Johnson,	George C. Strong,
William Kessel,	Prof. Pence,
A. D. Phelps,	H. L. Smithson.

Constitution and by-laws were prepared, and on November 27, 1885, the following thirty-nine men put their names to the constitution, thereby becoming charter members:

W. M. Johnson,	William Kassel,	C. H. Morehouse,
A. A. Hyde,	V. Y. Stanley,	J. E. Coulter,
C. P. Mueller,	Oscar DeLong,	D. S. Pence,
J. C. Rutan,	H. L. Smithson,	Edward Phillips,
David V. Walker,	J. K. Hollowell,	R. Byrony Hossor,
Fred L. Guthrie,	Sam F. Wollard,	L. W. L. Abbott,
George C. Meeker,	R. P. McPherson,	T. F. Kirshaw,
J. Y. Montague,	E. B. Philleo,	Charles L. Davidson,
Travis Morse,	T. F. Stanshely,	J. H. Parks,
H. McKin Du Bois,	Charles Lawrence,	A. F. Rowe,
George C. Strong,	H. W. Babcock,	Edgar J. Foster,
C. W. Barthalomew,	Walter G. Kraft,	E. D. Kimball,
A. D. Phelps,	Harry Campbell,	Ed. W. Smith.

Section 2 of Article I of this constitution, as prepared at that time, is interesting, inasmuch as it has not changed in the twenty-five years of growth. It is the "object" of the association, and reads:

"The object of this association shall be the development of Christian character and activity in its members, the promotion of evangelical religion, the cultivation of Christian sympathy, and the improvement of the spiritual, intellectual, social and physical condition of young men."

Ways and methods of doing work have changed greatly, but the object of the Young Men's Christian Association will never change.

Two rooms were secured in the Roys Block, over the Wichita Grocery, in which to carry on the work of the association. In December of the same year Mr. J. Y. Montague became the first employed secretary of the association, giving only a small part of his time to the work, and receiving a salary of \$25 a month.

In March, 1886, Mr. Andrew Baird was called to become general secretary, giving all his time to the work of the association. Under Mr. Baird's leadership, the association grew into a large and aggressive organization. Its rapid growth seemed to demand larger and better facilities. Mr. C. H. Yatman, of the International Committee, was invited to come to Wichita and consult with business men regarding a new building enterprise. A banquet was held, to which forty prominent citizens were invited. At this banquet about \$20,000 was subscribed. At a union meeting, the following night, held at the First Methodist Episcopal Church, the subscription was raised to \$50,000. Plans for a new building were immediately prepared. Before the completion of the building, however, the disastrous collapse of the boom period came, and many fortunes were swept away. Many subscribers were unable to meet their pledges, and when the beautiful building at the corner of First and Topeka was finished and furnished, the association was \$20,000 in debt. The only recourse was a mortgage, which was given for \$20,000. Then came the terrible years of depression, not only in Wichita but the entire country, culminating in the national panic. Business men and former financiers gave up their individual properties under mortgage claims, and the association did what many of the best and wisest citizens did in their own personal affairs. The building was sold to the Masons for just enough to cancel the debt.

While the association was without a building, it was also out of debt and continued its organization. Mr. Baird resigned in 1893 to become state secretary of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Kansas. Mr. W. M. Shaver was elected general secretary and served in this capacity until July, 1895. In September, 1895, John Caldwell was called to the secretaryship and served until January 1, 1897. In June, 1898, Mr. George F. Fuller took up the work as general secretary, and was connected with the association continually until October 1, 1905, when Mr. Arthur G. Pearson became general secretary. To Mr. Pearson and the board of directors who were elected at the time his administration started is due much of the credit for the present beauti-

ful home of the association at the corner of First street and Emporia avenue. This property is valued at \$110,000. The building was erected in 1907 and would be a credit to any city.

The officers and directors of the association at the time of the erection of the present building were as follows:

OFFICERS.

President—A. A. Hyde.

Vice-President—C. S. Sargent, D. D.

Recording Secretary—O. A. Boyle.

Treasurer—H. W. Darling.

General Secretary—A. G. Pearson.

DIRECTORS.

C. Q. Chandler,

H. W. Lewis,

W. C. Edwards,

R. E. Lawrence,

C. L. Davidson,

C. E. Potts,

R. P. Murdock,

E. Higginson,

O. H. Bentley,

I. W. Gill.

H. Comley.

Chairman Business Men's Committee—Hiram Imboden.

Chairman Young Men's Committee—Tom Blodgett.

Secretary Young Men's Committee—Will K. Jones.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

C. S. Sargent, O. H. Bentley and H. W. Darling.

The physical work of the association is under the direction of an able physical director, who has had special training for this work. The purpose of the gymnasium is to develop men physically through the regular "gym" classes and recreative games, that they may reach the highest degree of health and efficiency.

The gymnasium is one of the finest to be found in the Middle West. It is well lighted and ventilated, and its equipment is the very best. The floor space is 42x70, and there are no posts to interfere with games. There are two large individual exercise rooms, fitted up especially for those who wish to exercise while some game is in progress on the main floor. There is an inclined cork running track around the entire gymnasium, thirty-two laps

to the mile. Teams in basket ball, volley ball, indoor base ball, tennis, etc., are organized by this department. A physical examination is given by the physical director to all who take the physical work.

The bathing equipment is the very finest that can be afforded. There are eleven shower baths, the best of the modern baths, always supplied with an abundance of hot and cold water. Marble tubs are also provided. The swimming pool is lined with white enamel tile and is 20x60 feet and 8x3 feet in depth; it is filled with clear running water, and kept at a uniform temperature. A great many boys and men learn to swim in this swimming pool.

The educational classes are provided for young men who are employed during the day and who wish to increase their earning capacity and to live more useful lives. The following subjects are taught: Bookkeeping, Business Spelling, Penmanship, Commercial Arithmetic, Business English, Commercial Law, Stenography and Typewriting. Practical talks are given by business and professional men of the city under auspices of this department. The reading room contains daily papers and all leading magazines.

Our aim is to give religious work first place in our activities; however, religion is not thrust upon anybody. It is all wholesome and manly. A spiritual life demands a clean, strong body and a healthy mind, and the association idea is to develop the three—spirit, mind and body. Men's meetings are held every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, in the auditorium. Good music and live addresses by speakers who know how to speak to men.

A supper is served each Sunday following the men's meeting. Strangers in the city are invited to stay for "tea" and meet members of the association. A charge of 10 cents is made for this lunch. A twenty-minute Bible study follows the luncheon.

Bible classes for all groups and ages are arranged by the Religious Work Department.

"Meet me at the Y. M.," is a popular expression often heard among our members; it's the meeting place for hundreds of young men, and the one place where they can meet under the best of environment. The Social Department aims to maintain a feeling of good fellowship among its members, and give a welcome to the "stranger within its gate."

The lobby, with its cozy fireplace, is a great social center. The parlors are elegantly furnished, and are at the disposal of mem-

bers. There is a separate department for the boys of Wichita. There are over 400 members of the department. They do the things boys like to do. They are always in charge of a competent Boys' Work Director.

There are four regulation bowling alleys. There are forty-five bachelor apartments, accommodating seventy-five young men who are away from home. They are furnished to suit the tastes of young men. There is a telephone in every room. These rooms are in such demand that there is a waiting list the year around.

The dining room is a delightful privilege of membership, and a distinctive feature of its work. Any man of good moral character may become a member of the Wichita Young Men's Christian Association. Church membership is not required. This building has been provided by the public-spirited citizens and dedicated to the young men of Wichita, hundreds of whom use the building daily and testify to the development which they receive, physically, mentally and morally.

The officers and directors at the present time are:

President—A. A. Hyde.

Vice-President—W. S. Hadley.

Treasurer—H. W. Darling.

Recording Secretary—T. M. Deal.

Directors—H. Imboden, C. E. Caswell, M. D., W. R. Dulaney, C. E. Potts, C. A. Magill, H. Comley, H. W. Lewis, E. Higginson, W. C. Edwards, C. Q. Chandler, J. N. Haymaker.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

General Secretary—Clifford Pierce.

Boys' Work Secretary—Foster M. Heaton.

Physical Director—Anthony C. Knehr.

Assistant Secretary—Daniel W. Binford.

Assistant Secretary—Clarence I. Vessey.

Assistant Secretary—Max Pierce.

The presidents of the association and years they have served since the organization in Wichita are:

1885-1887—J. C. Rutan.

1887-1888—Robert E. Lawrence.

1888-1889—H. Imboden.

1889-1890—A. A. Hyde.

1890-1891—W. J. Coner.

1891-1892—R. P. Murdock.

1892-1893—H. H. Dewey.

1893-1896—W. E. Stanley.

1896-1898—H. H. Dewey.

1898-1900—A. W. Sickner.

1900-1900—W. J. Frazier (part term; Mr. Frazier declined re-election).

1900-1902—J. W. Laidlaw.

1902-1906—J. M. Knapp.

1906—A. A. Hyde.

THE SALVATION ARMY BARRACKS.

Some years ago the Salvation Army in Wichita, and through the liberality of the Wichita people, established permanent barracks on North Topeka avenue on a valuable lot. A very presentable building was built, and in the building a debt of \$5,000 was left upon the structure. The enterprising and public-spirited men of the Chamber of Commerce, headed by ex-Governor W. E. Stanley and others, conceived the idea of lifting the debt. To that end a campaign was laid out and a popular subscription of \$10 per capita was started. A few days sufficed and the debt was cleared, and the Army today has the best Salvation Army barracks in the state of Kansas, free and clear of any debt.

CHAPTER XXXII.

CITY FEDERATION OF CLUBS.

By

RUTH FRASIUS.

The Wichita City Federation of Women's Clubs, although new in comparison with like organizations in other cities of the same age, has accomplished a great deal of good. Its undertakings have not been many, but what it has undertaken has been carried to successful completion. Its pet project, and probably the one that has accomplished the most good, is the visiting nurse. Since this work was started, Miss Amy Smith has been in charge of it, and has met with wonderful success. The nurse is supported by subscription. She works among the poor of the city, who otherwise would not have proper treatment while ill. The city federation established a North End library for the benefit of the working people of the packing-house district, who could not get good books to read without coming down town. They were instrumental in getting trash cans for the streets, so that now the public thoroughfares are kept much cleaner than they were formerly. It was at the instigation of the club women that a humane officer was appointed. The club women went to the mayor of the city and prevented a roping contest that was to have been held here. They had a cleanup day in the spring, and also secured two men who are scenic artists to give a course of lectures in the city. The federation is composed of women, rich and poor, but who are alike in the respect that they have the best interests of the city at heart. Last year Mrs. J. D. Bertollette was president, and under her leadership the work of the federation flourished. The constitution allows a president to hold office but one term, so that the honors for the different clubs may be more equally divided. Mrs. W. T. Johnson, of Twentieth Century Club, will be the president this year.

The object of the federation, in the words of the pledge, is:

"We, the club women of Wichita, in order to form and perpetuate a union, whose highest aim shall be to establish a lofty standard of citizenship and culture, to promote the general welfare of our city and especially in every department that influences the sanctity of the home, and to assist in securing the blessings of an ideal civilization to ourselves, and to our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution of the Federated Clubs of Wichita." The oldest club in the city, and perhaps in the state, is Hypatia, which was organized in 1886. There were nine charter members, six of whom now reside in the city. They are Mrs. Louise Henderson, Mrs. Emma Hills, Mrs. George McCoy, Mrs. Nerius Baldwin, Mrs. Mary Todd and Mrs. George Strong. The object of the club is "literary, artistic and scientific culture, entirely free from sectarian and political partisanship." Of the twenty-four past presidents only one, Mrs. C. Emerson Clarke, is dead. The club meets every alternate Monday, for either study or a program. The biggest event in the club year is the "club annual," which occurs on the twenty-third of January. This is the birthday celebration and something original is always given. The club colors are purple and gold, and the pansy is the flower. The course of study for this year will include a systematic study of France and the live issues of the day, such as the child labor question, white slave traffic, woman's suffrage, and the conservation of natural resources. Under France they will study its history, leading characters, customs, manners, etc. The year books will be out October 3.

In the past, Hypatia has not been identified with social reform work, only through the city federation, but this year the members will make civic improvement one of the main features in the course of study.

Twentieth Century Club. Organized January 3, 1899, is a club with an unlimited membership, and now has over 100 members. It is divided into four departments: Shakespearean, Art, Domestic Science and General. Meetings are held once a week. Mrs. Lionel Trotter is in charge of the Shakespeare department, which is probably better attended than any other meeting. Mrs. O. A. Keach is chairman of the art department, and under her leadership the club members have learned a great deal of the old masters and their works. Last year the study was chiefly of the Venetian school. The domestic science department this year will be ably presided over by Miss Estella Barnes, who is the

lunch room secretary of the Y. W. C. A. Miss Mary Noble will again have the general programs, which have become popular features.

Last year Prof. Trueblood, of Friends University, gave a course of lectures on sociology. The Rev. Bruce Griffith, A. E. Jacques, Rev. Day, Mr. Wood, Mrs. William Larkin, Mrs. B. E. Rowlee, Mrs. C. E. Bradt and Miss Amy Smith were on the general programs for talks along sociological and civic improvement lines.

The club has four large social affairs during the year. A reception, a musical, a buffet luncheon, and a banquet. The club colors are green and white, which lend themselves admirably to decorative purposes. The flower is the carnation. There have been but three presidents of the club: Mrs. R. P. Murdock, Mrs. Arthur T. Butler and the present president, Mrs. E. B. Jewett. The object of the club is intellectual, moral and social development of its members. Each meeting is opened with current events, lead by Mrs. A. C. Race, then follows the business to be transacted, and then the programs.

Wichita Musical Club is composed of 125 women, who are either musicians or are interested in music. The musical club belongs to the eighth District Federation of Women's Clubs, and also to the city federation. It was organized in 1894, by Mrs. Lillian Hamlin Garst, who now resides in Chicago. Among the charter members were Mrs. Hubert Childe, Mrs. George Strong, Mrs. Leathe, Miss Leida Mills, and Miss Jessie Clarke. Mrs. Leathe was the first president. Last year the club met every week at the homes of the different members, but it has been decided that it will meet in a hall this year. From a social standpoint the year was a great success, but the members feel that they can do more real studying if the meetings are held in a hall. The club has two departments, choral and instrumental. Miss Jessie Clarke has charge of the choral department, and Mrs. E. Higginson has charge of the piano department. Last year the club made a special study of women composers. They gave programs every month, and besides this assisted in "The Messiah," which was presented at the First Methodist Episcopal church, and gave two cantatas. Mrs. David Smyth is now the president of the club.

The South Side Delvers was originally composed of women who live on the South Side, but so many of the members have

moved, that the south part of the name is no longer appropriate. "Dig" is their motto, and the club emblem is a pick ax and shovel. The colors are purple, lavender and white, and the club flower is the white carnation. Mrs. Lawrence Staker, at whose home the club was organized about eight years ago, has been its president twice. She is the oldest member in the club and is one of the most enthusiastic. The club is limited to eighteen members. Although they have discussed, at many of the meetings, the advisability of becoming allied with the city federation, they have never yet taken the step that would bring them into the broader club life. Until last year the club studied only Shakespeare, but now its members devote half of the time to Browning. They have a critic, whose duty it is to criticise them on the use of the English language, and thus they gain much.

Eunice Sterling Chapter is perhaps the strongest chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Kansas. The objects of the chapter, as set forth in the constitution, are: "To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women of the American Revolution, to record the hitherto unwritten history of the ancestors of the Eunice Sterling chapter and to encourage and maintain true patriotism and love of country." The Eunice Sterling chapter erected a handsome monument to mark the Santa Fe trail at Lost Springs, Kan. In the new high school building they will put a bronze tablet of Lincoln and his Gettysburg address. They have made quite a sum of money in the past year from the sale of flags. In addition to the pecuniary side of this arrangement, it promotes a spirit of patriotism in the city. They have furnished a room in the Carnegie library, and have placed in it a great many curios. They keep a chest filled with baby clothes, that the visiting nurse uses in her work, and do a great many other charities, besides their regular work.

Fairmount Library Club. In October, 1894, some Fairmount women and teachers in the school met in one of the class rooms to devise ways and means to secure for the college a good working library. The institution was not Fairmount College, however, till several years after, but was known as "Fairmount Institute." Among those present at the first meeting were: Mrs. Mary C. Todd, Mrs. J. M. Knapp, Mrs. A. E. Helm, Mrs. George C. Strong, Mrs. Isabella Clough, Mrs. W. J. Babb, Mrs. Mary B. Graves, Mrs. Albert Ellis, Mrs. R. M. Tunnell, Miss Marie Mathis, and Miss H. Rhea Woodman. In the election of officers Mrs.

Mary Brooks Graves was made president, Mrs. R. M. Tunnell, vice-president, Miss H. Rhea Woodman, secretary, and Mrs. J. M. Knapp, treasurer. The object of the club, as stated at the meeting, was, "primarily, to furnish a library room and add to the library; and, second, to aid, in general, the entire work of the college." The only qualification for membership, as laid down in the constitution, was "showing a willingness to work in the interest of the college." Later, it was decreed that the meetings be held the first and third Tuesdays of each month; that the name be the "Library Club"; that the motto be those fine words of Berthold Auerbach, "Help yourself to further growth—that is, the best"; and that the club colors be the old Rubric colors—red, white and black.

The first study was American literature, followed by a study of French literature and art, a four years' reading course in English literature, outlined and ably conducted by Miss Flora C. Clough, dean of the English department of the college. Miscellaneous topics have been considered, and last year there was given a course in American art, under the efficient leadership of Miss Elizabeth Sprague, head of the art department. The study for the current year will be on Ireland—the history, art, music, and literature, while studies in sociology and science will be given by members of the faculty. This club was formerly federated with the district and state organizations, but at present with the city federation only. Some of the most valuable books of the library have been contributed by this club, in addition to cement walks laid, walls decorated, and subscriptions made to the endowment fund, the emergency fund, equipped and maintained for two years (1901-2, 1902-3) a domestic science department at Fairmount College. It is now furnishing the museum with cases. Through the kindness of the trustees and faculty the use of a beautiful room in the Carnegie Library building has been tendered, and all regular meetings are now being held there.

The club officers are as follows: President, Mrs. Minerva Clough Babb; vice-president, Mrs. Jennie May Brown; secretary, Miss Mary B. Dimond; treasurer, Mrs. Harriet Ellis Swartz.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

FRATERNAL ORDERS.

YORK RITE MASONRY.

Wichita is noted as a Masonic city. Probably no city in the country has a larger percentage of its citizens who are members of this fraternity. Every known organized body related to the Masonic institution has a local organization here, and every one of these organizations is in an active, flourishing condition. In numbers this institution stands head and shoulders above any other fraternity; in personnel it is equally prominent; in capital invested in buildings, paraphernalia, etc., it has no peer, and its influence is felt through its teachings in a myriad of ways in every movement that has for its object the upbuilding of this city. Masonry has ever been, in all ages and all climes, an influence for the uplifting of mankind. Its origin is lost in the mists of antiquity. Many theories are advanced as to the exact time of its foundation, the most popular one being that it was the result of an organization of the workmen employed in building the temple of Solomon. However, all these theories are founded on tradition, as no authentic history of the fraternity goes back beyond the middle ages. It was then an organization of operative or actual stone masons. Later, its symbolical or speculative features attracted men of wealth and rank to its membership, and gradually it became what it is today, "a beautiful system of morals, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols."

Benjamin Franklin said of it: "Masonry has beauties peculiar to itself; but of what do they consist? They consist of tokens, which serve as testimonials of character and qualifications, which are only conferred after a due course of instruction and examination. These are of no small value; they speak a universal language and act as a passport to the attention and support of the initiated in all parts of the world. They cannot be lost as long

as Masonry retains its power; let the possessor of them be expatriated, shipwrecked, or imprisoned; let him be stripped of everything he has got in the world; still these credentials remain, and are available for use as circumstances require. The great effects which they have produced are established by the most incontestable facts of history. They have stayed the uplifted hand of the destroyer; they have softened the asperities of the tyrant; they have mitigated the horrors of captivity; they have subdued the rancor of malevolence, and broken down the barriers of political animosity and sectarian alienation. On the field of battle, in the solitude of uncultivated forests, or in the busy marts of the crowded city, they have made men of the most diversified condition rush to the aid of each other and feel social joy and satisfaction that they have been able to afford relief to a brother Mason."

"The Masonic Institution" is a term generally used to designate all organizations with a Masonic connection. In this "institution" is included not only the basis or foundation of the whole structure, the lodge, but also those bodies whose ranks can only be recruited from those who are already members of the lodge, and, in the case of the Order of Eastern Star, their female relatives. The portion of the Masonic family known as the "York Rite," or "American Rite," is composed of The Lodge, or Symbolic Masonry, the Eastern Star Chapter or Adoptive Masonry, the Royal Arch Chapter or Capitular Masonry, the Council of Royal and Select Masters or Cryptic Masonry, the Commandery of Knights Templar or Chivalric Masonry. The lodge is the most ancient of all Masonic bodies and is the foundation of the whole fabric. After that it is simply a wheel within a wheel. The first requisite for membership in the Royal Arch Chapter is that the petitioner is a member of the lodge, or Master Mason; he must be a Royal Arch Mason, or member of the Chapter, before he can seek admission to either the Commandery of Knights Templar or Council of Royal and Select Masters. Membership in the Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star is limited to Master Masons, their wives, widows, mothers, sisters or daughters.

Symbolic Masonry consists of the first three degrees, Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason. There are three co-ordinate lodges located in this city, Wichita Lodge, No. 99; Sunflower Lodge, No. 86, and Albert Pike Lodge, No. 303.

WICHITA LODGE, NO. 99, A. F. & A. M.

This history of Wichita is correlative with that of York Rite Masonry. With the first settlers in this valley came Masons fervent and with the good of the order at heart they went at once to found the order here. Wichita Lodge, No. 99, was born in a stable. The first meeting called for the organization of the lodge was held in the loft of a livery stable, at the corner of what is now known as Main and Third streets. A committee of three was sent to Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 71, of Augusta, the then nearest lodge to Wichita, who was to exemplify the work and prove themselves "worthy and well qualified to do the work of the order." This committee was composed of Bro. Morgan Cox, M. B. Kellogg and J. P. Allen. This committee returned with the necessary credentials, and in October of the year 1870 a dispensation was granted for a lodge in Wichita by Grand Master J. M. Price.

The first officers elected were: Bro. Morgan Cox, worshipful master; Bro. Milo B. Kellogg, senior warden; Bro. J. P. Allen, junior warden. At the end of the year a permanent charter was granted the lodge, and, Bro. Cox being away on his claim, the lodge elected Bro. H. C. Sluss the first master under the charter, with Bros. M. B. Kellogg, senior warden, and J. P. Allen, junior warden. Bro. Morgan Cox, with a man by the name of Green, built the first two-story house in the city, at the corner of Pine and Main streets, where the lodge made its first home until the building was sold to Ida May, and was afterwards known as the Ida May House. The lodge then moved to the attic of a frame schoolhouse, standing where the present high school is being constructed, where they remained till they moved to what was known as Eagle Hall, afterwards removed to better quarters over the First National Bank, on the northeast corner of Main and First, where the Sunflower Lodge now holds their meetings. In 1886 the lodge was moved to their own new building, where they now are, on the southwest corner of First and Main. The following are the men who have acted as master of the lodge, and the times for which they served:

Morgan Cox, 1870-71-73-74-75; H. C. Sluss, 1872-78; Thomas M. Trickey, 1876-77; Winfield S. Corbett, 1879-80; George E. Harris, 1881; George W. ———, 1896; Milton H. Rudolph, 1897; William ———, 1897-87; Leonard C. Jackson, 1886; Joseph P.

Allen, 1888; James H. McCall, 1889, afterwards Grand Master of state of Kansas; Carlton A. Gates, 1890; George L. Pratt, 1891; John Wilkin, 1892; Lauriston G. Whittier, 1893; Charles A. Cartwright, 1894; William A. Reed, 1894; August Anderson, 1895; John M. Chain, 1890; Milton H. Rudolph, 1897; William E. Bailey, 1898; Nicholas Steffen, 1899; Matthew J. Parrett, 1900; William J. Frazier, 1901; James F. McCoy, 1902; Harry E. Wilson, 1903; George M. Whitney, 1904; William L. Kendrick, 1905; Louis Gerties, 1906; Richard B. Wentworth, 1907; William G. Price, 1908; Harvey C. Price, 1909.

The present officers are: Dr. John I. Evans, W. M.; G. A. King, S. W.; Ross D. McCormick, J. W.; J. J. Fegtley, secretary; L. S. Naftzger, treasurer; Homer T. Harden, S. D.; L. V. Koch, J. D.; Paul J. Wall, S. S.; Glen C. Chamberlain, J. S.; Benjamin Hunt, tyler. The lodge has grown rapidly, especially during the last year, and now numbers 630 members. The fine business block now occupied by the lodge is owned, free from debt, by it, and they are now considering the advisability of moving to larger and better quarters. The stated communiciations are held on the first and third Monday evenings of each month. From this lodge has originated the other two lodges of the city, Sunflower Lodge, No. 86, and Albert Pike Lodge, No. 303. In this hall are held all the meetings of the other branches of York Rite Masonry, Wichita Council, No. 12; Wichita Chapter, No. 33; Ivy Leaf Chapter, No. 75, O. E. S., and Mt. Olivet Commandery, No. 12, K. T.

SUNFLOWER LODGE, NO. 86, A. F. & A. M.

Sunflower Lodge, No. 86, A. F. & A. M. commenced work under dispensation granted by Most Worshipful Grand Master Lamb, on March 12, 1888. It held its first meeting in what was known as the Sunflower block, on West Douglas avenue, on the West Side. It was composed at first almost entirely of residents of the West Side. On February 20, 1889, a charter was granted to this lodge, with J. B. Lawrence as the first master, H. A. Hill, senior warden, and J. H. Taylor, junior warden. A most peculiar incident marked the second year of the new lodge. The master, James B. Lawrence, while conferring a degree in the lodge room, was stricken with apoplexy very suddenly and expired before he could be removed to his home.

In 1897 the lodge moved its quarters from the West Side and for a short time used a room in the Wall building on Market

in what is now called the Sunflower block. This building was formerly the county courthouse. It was bought and remodeled by a company composed entirely of members of this lodge. The lodge owns a large block of stock in this company, which is paying them a handsome dividend. Their quarters are commodious and well adapted for their use. The lodge is in a flourishing and active condition, entirely out of debt, and with a rapidly increasing membership. The stated communications are on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Following is a list of the worshipful masters since the organization of the lodge: *James B. Lawrence, 1888-89; *H. A. Hill, 1890; *S. P. Howard, 1891; *H. A. Hill, 1892; *Giles Davis, 1893; F. C. Kirkpatrick, 1894-96-98; O. L. Drake, 1895; M. W. Cave, 1897; C. A. Latham, 1899; J. C. Dunn, 1900; Herman A. Hill, Jr., 1901-02; H. S. Speer, 1903-04; Frank L. Payne, 1905; John L. Taylor, 1906; Horace M. Rickards, 1907; William F. McFarland, 1908; Arch DeBruce, 1909; Guy W. Kyle, 1910. *Deceased.

street. It now meets on the third floor at 200 North Main street,

ALBERT PIKE LODGE A DISTINCT FORCE.

Albert Pike Lodge, No. 303, A. F. & A. M., of Wichita, Kan., is a distinct moral force in this community and a forceful factor in Masonic circles. This lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Kansas, on February 20, 1895, under dispensation of the Grand Lodge of the state, with a membership of thirty, and began work in July, 1895. George L. Pratt, 33° Honorary, was its first worshipful master; John L. Powell, 33° Honorary, was its first secretary; Col. Elmer E. Bleckley, 33° Honorary, was the first senior warden of this lodge, and Col. Thomas G. Fitch, 33° Honorary, was its first junior warden. From almost the earliest history of this lodge Alva J. Applegate, 32° K. C. C. H., has kept the records of this lodge. In an early day Mr. Applegate was the secretary of Lodge No. 99; he afterwards, on invitation, demitted from that lodge and joined Albert Pike Lodge. He has been the secretary of Albert Pike Lodge since 1897. In this work he excels, as he has the reputation of being a most efficient and natural secretary, his work on the records is always neat and accurate, and he has no superior in looking after the dues and financial part of the lodge. Succeeding George L. Pratt came a line of most efficient masters, who put the lodge to the very front in Masonic circles. Among the masters of Albert Pike Lodge W. W. Pearce, 32° K. C. C. H.,

has the unusual distinction of passing in rotation every station in the lodge, from junior steward to the master's chair.

Ralph Martin is now the active and efficient worshipful master of Albert Pike Lodge, and it goes without saying that A. J. Applegate is still its secretary. It would be invidious to distinguish among the distinguished men and Masons who have filled the master's chair in Albert Pike Lodge. They have all made this lodge a grand success and have the respect and love of the craft in this city. Albert Pike Lodge, during its last Masonic year, raised 80 men to the Master's degree. It now has a membership of 778, and is the largest lodge in the state of Kansas. Its activities during the past Masonic year broke the state's record and the world's record. It now occupies the finest lodge room in the state, in a portion of the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple.

IVY LEAF CHAPTER, ORDER EASTERN STAR.

Ivy Leaf Chapter, U. D., was instituted at Wichita, Kan., in the afternoon of March 26, 1889, by George W. Clark, Grand Patron, with the following officers: Eudora E. Hall, W. M.; Dr. John M. Minick, W. P.; Mary V. Cox, A. M.; May W. Pearse, secretary; David A. Mitchell, treasurer; Sadie Wesselhoft, Con.; Carrie B. Hume, A. Con.; Margaret Lemon, Adah; Mary Allen, Ruth; Helen Solliday, Esther; Carrie M. Brook, Martha; Elizabeth Minick, Electa; Lydia Starr, warden; Harvey Goodrow, sentinel; Carrie Fegtley, organist. Its charter was issued March 11, 1890, and contained the names of the following charter members: R. Allen Hall, Eudora E. Hall, Phoebe Peckham, John Minick, Elizabeth Minick, Mary Allen, Helen Solliday, William Wesselhoft, Sadie Wesselhoft, Carrie M. Brook, May W. Pearse, Margaret Lemon, Carrie B. Hume, Mary V. Cox, William Starr, Lydia Starr, David A. Mitchell, Henry L. Smithson, Annie Smithson, Alva J. Applegate, Anna M. Applegate, Edw. Phillips, James H. McCall, Harvey Goodrow, John J. Fegtley, Carrie Fegtley, David Smyth, Annie Smyth. The chapter was constituted Saturday evening, April 12, 1890, by Lillian A. Wiggs, grand matron, with the following officers: Eudora E. Hall, W. M.; Dr. John Minick, W. P.; Mary V. Cox, A. M.; May Pearse, secretary; David A. Mitchell, treasurer; Sadie Wesselhoft, Con.; Tillie Whitlock, A. Con.; Anna Applegate, Adah; Ella Dorsey, Ruth; Annie Smyth, Esther; Lillian Wilber, Martha; Elizabeth Minick, Electa;

Lydia Starr, sentinel; William Wesselhoft, warden; D. A. Mitchell, chaplain; Mary Hall, marshal; Carrie Fegtly, organist. The first person initiated under the dispensation was Anna M. Applegate, now past grand matron. The following well known ladies and gentlemen have been at the head of this organization since its beginning:

Mrs. Eudora Hall, 1889-90-91; Mrs. Anna M. Applegate, 1892; Mrs. Anna Smyth, 1893; Mrs. Matilda S. Whitlock, 1894; Mrs. Mary M. G. Cossitt, 1895; Mrs. Eliza Ruth Bristow, 1896; Mrs. Maggie L. Rudolph, 1897; Mrs. Grace M. Anderson, 1898; Mrs. Carrie C. Cossitt, 1899; Mrs. Mary A. Baker, 1900; Mrs. Georgia C. Kilgore, 1901; Mrs. Mary E. Charlton, 1902-03; Mrs. Anna S. Phinney, 1904; Miss Vesta Charlton, 1905; Mrs. Anna L. Cottman, 1906; Mrs. Anna Schnitzler, 1907; Mrs. Kate Rebstein, 1908; Mrs. Kathryn Duckworth, 1909; Mrs. Mary M. Miles, 1910; Dr. John M. Minick, 1889-90; James T. Dorsey, 1891; Dr. E. A. Whitlock, 1892; Edgar N. Hall, 1893; August Anderson, 1893-94-1904; David Smyth, 1895-99-1903; W. H. Harrison, 1896; Fred J. Cossitt, 1897; W. E. Bailey, 1898; F. C. Kirkpatrick, 1900; S. H. Kilgore, 1901; M. J. Parrett, 1902; W. S. Mickle, 1905-06; G. M. Booth, 1907-08; Dr. H. H. Taggart, 1909-10. Many of its members have been appointed to fill distinguished positions in the Grand Chapter.

The following members have filled the offices of Grand Matron and Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Kansas: Eudora E. Hall, grand matron, 1891-92; Anna M. Applegate, grand matron, 1906-07; August M. Anderson, grand patron, 1896-97; David Smyth, grand patron, 1900-01. These are the highest offices within the gift of the Grand Chapter, and their occupants filled them with credit to themselves and honor to their home chapter.

Of the twenty-eight members in 1890 but six are members of the chapter at this time. Mr. and Mrs. David Smyth, and Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Applegate have held continuous and active membership, and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Fegtly, who were out of the city a number of years, affiliated again as soon as they returned. The membership at the present time is 451, Ivy Leaf being second only to Kansas City in point of membership in the state. Its members are known throughout the country for their active efforts in behalf of the Kansas Masonic Home, and their "gathering here a little and there a little," with which to provide a home for themselves some time in the future. This chapter was among

the first to furnish a room in the Masonic Home, the money therefor being earned by giving a lawn social on what is now Masonic Home ground. The remembrance of that social still remains with those that lived here at that time, as the largest and finest gathering that had ever taken place in the city of Wichita, and in the minds of the members as the largest amount of money ever cleared from a like source. Ivy Leaf also has the distinction of being the first to offer, and of giving, the largest donation towards the building of the Eastern Star Chapel on the Masonic Home grounds. It is known as a liberal contributor towards this grand institution, so dear to the heart of every good Mason, and especially dear to the ladies of the Eastern Star. Its lady members are especially known for the splendid banquet they have served in the Scottish Rite cathedral the past few years, which has given Wichita the name of being a good entertainer and given the order the opportunity of living up to its teachings, that the cry of the widow and orphans of those less fortunate than themselves shall never be heard in vain. The kindness of the Masonic fraternity to this adoptive rite in Wichita is not exceeded by any fraternity in the country, and Ivy Leaf is deeply sensible of this fact. The Grand Chapter of Kansas will hold its next annual session in this city, May 11, 12 and 13, 1911, and it is needless to say that the thousand members who will be in attendance will go home with glowing accounts of the hospitality of Ivy Leaf and the citizens of Wichita in general.

CAPITULAR MASONRY, WICHITA CHAPTER.

The next step in Masonry after the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason is known as that of Capitular Masonry and belong to the Chapter, and are known as Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent, and Royal Arch. Many persons get the erroneous idea that the more degrees they get in Masonry the higher they are considered. This is not the fact, however. On taking the Master Mason's degree the candidate steps upon the highest level or plateau of Masonry; all other degrees are but side rooms or views from which to see the beauties of the order and where the great principles of the order are exemplified. Wichita Chapter, No. 33, Royal Arch Masons, was organized under dispensation, December 5, 1875. The first officers were: Most excellent high priest, George F. Hargis; excel-

lent king, David A. Mitchell; excellent scribe, M. S. Adams; captain of hosts, J. C. Redfield; principal sojourner, Morgan Cox; royal arch captain, M. C. Crawford; master of first vail, R. P. Murdock; master of second vail, A. A. Jackson; master of third vail, Dave Hays; treasurer, Mike Zimmerley; secretary, M. B. Kellogg; tyler, L. Hays.

The same officers were elected after the charter had been granted. The persons holding the highest office in the chapter since the organization, viz., that of high priest, are as follows: George F. Hargis, 1876-77; D. A. Mitchell, 1878-79-80-86-87; Joseph P. Allen, 1881-83-85; William F. Walker, 1882; James L. Dyer, 1884; Charles E. Martin, 1888; Carlton A. Gates, 1889; Edward Phillips, 1890; George L. Pratt, 1891-99-1901; Charles M. Jones, 1892; Jacob H. Aley, 1893; William A. Reed, 1894; Thomas C. Fitch, 1895 (grand high priest of Grand Chapter of Kansas); James H. McCall, 1896; Merritt A. Carvin, 1897; William H. Harrison, 1898; Abraham B. Wright, 1900; Matthew J. Parrett, 1902; Charles W. Biting, 1903; Frank C. Kirkpatrick, 1904.

THE SCOTTISH RITE IN WICHITA.

By

J. GILES SMITH, 33°.

Review of Wichita Bodies. The pyrotechnic career of the local organization of Scottish Rite Masonry is so really marvelous and brilliant that a brief recapitulation must be of interest to all readers. Its embryonic state was commonplace and primeval enough. Eleven years ago the coördinate bodies in this valley were organized with twelve charter members. They then met in the Hacker & Jackson block, corner Douglas avenue and Fourth, in lowly quarters. In January, 1891, having ninety-two members, the cathedral property, corner of Market and First streets, was purchased of the First Baptist Church society, and fitted up for exclusive Scottish Rite purposes. From that date the advancement was so rapid that very soon it became evident that those accommodations were entirely inadequate, and it was talked among the members to erect a new edifice on that site. In the meantime, the massive and architectural Y. M. C. A. structure, corner of First street and Topeka avenue, was about to revert

to the church society who held the indebtedness, and the executive committee from the Consistory at once entered negotiations to secure it, which was finally effected January 1, 1898. The building was erected at a cost of \$75,000, and to this was added a sum of \$12,000 for remodeling, decorating and furnishing the building for the use of the bodies of the rite. The result is that right here in Wichita is located one of the most completely equipped and magnificent temples, entirely devoted to Masonry, anywhere in the Southern jurisdiction. There were sacrifices of time, money and attention during the struggling early period of the Consistory, and at least three men deserve special mention, but all are entitled to due credit for their steadfast perseverance and inspiring faith in the ultimate outcome, the fruits of their fidelity remaining today a credit to the city, of all citizens, Masons or not. Jeremiah S. Cole and J. Giles Smith were the earliest leaders who infused hope and courage into the little band, who bravely overrode all difficulties and often paid out of their own pockets large sums of money to keep alive the spark of being for the rite in Wichita. Once, when extensive improvements were needed, they went to W. H. Sternberg, one of the early members of the rite, and laid the case before him. Without a word of promise or any contract Mr. Sternberg went right ahead with the work and finished it up, just as desired, with no prospects of remuneration, and, in fact, it was not for a year or two, after the rough sailing was passed, that he was paid. Twice each year the four bodies met and created more Masters of the Royal Secret, until at last the attention of the Supreme Council was drawn to their efforts, and J. S. Cole and J. Giles Smith were summoned to appear before the Supreme Council at Washington, there to receive the reward for their patient, toiling labors, and this was the coveted 33d degree, that of inspector general, which is never extended except for meritorious service in behalf of the rite. From then on a new spirit of ardent zeal was inculcated, and the growth has been so phenomenally rapid that today the youngest consistory in the southern jurisdiction of the world leads all the particular consistories in membership and high order of the working of the established ritual. Since its organization, there have been created in this valley twelve 33d degree Masons, and there are now on the rolls ten Knights Commander of the Court of Honor, which is the initial step toward the 33d. The inspectors general honorary, or 33d degree Masons, are: J. S.

Cole, Lanark, Ill.; J. Giles Smith, deceased; Jacob H. Ale, deceased; Major Edward Goldberg, Quapaw Indian Agency, I. T.; Col. Henry C. Loomis, mayor of Winfield; Charles M. Jones; S. H. Horner, Caldwell; James H. McCall; Henry Wallenstein, James A. Corey, Dodge City; George L. Pratt; Col. Thomas G. Fitch. The Knights Commander of the Court of Honor now enrolled and awaiting further advancement are: Judge Henry C. Sluss, Judge David A. Mitchell, Elmer E. Bleckley, Charles G. Cohn, Fred H. Stuckey, Frank W. Oliver, Charles W. Bitting, Stephen F. Hayden and John L. Powell, the latter general secretary of all of the four bodies. Be it said that the secret of the wonderful growth of the Wichita bodies, and their pinnacle standing in the esteem of the Supreme Council, is the solidarity and ardent zeal of the membership. Once a Master Mason is created a 32nd degree he at once feels he is a propagandist and missionary to induce others among his Masonic acquaintances to progress up the "mysterious ladder." All work together, and the fruitage of their labors is today amply in evidence. But to a few specially gifted members along the dramatic and histrionic art is due the extension of unlimited praise. Charles M. Jones has proven an invaluable aid to the upbuilding of the rite in this city, and no more popular and respected member is listed. Gifted with a remarkable memory, quick to learn the difficult parts of the dramatization, retentive, and with natural histrionic gifts, and patient, willing readiness to serve, his rare and gifted talents have more than once been brought into play at a time when enthusiasm was at its ebb and just such powers most in demand. Henry Wallenstein, Fred Stuckey, Colonel Bleckley, Tom Fitch, Edward Goldberg, George Pratt, and many others along this line have never faltered when their invaluable services were most desired. The efficiency of the equally necessary talent of scribe has been of great practical benefit to the four bodies, that possessed in an unusual degree by John L. Powell, who for several years has acted in the position of secretary. Thus, from a very little, has the Wichita consistory grown, until today her members stand first in numbers throughout the expanse of the Southern jurisdiction.

Wichita Consistory, No. 2, now has a membership of 2,500, and they are a power in any line, as there is a wonderful unanimity in their efforts. Many of those enumerated in this article have passed away, but "their works live after them."

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite bodies are, in the aggregate, the most important body in the county of Sedgwick.

Regarding the historical feature of the Scottish Rite, it may be said that French writers call this the Ancient and Accepted Rite, but as the Latin constitutions of the order designate it as the *Antiquas Scotius Ritus Acceptus*, or the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, that title has now been very generally adopted as the correct name of the rite. Although one of the youngest of the Masonic rites, having been established not earlier than 1801, it is today the most popular and most extensively diffused. Supreme councils, or governing bodies, of the rite, are to be found in almost every civilized country of the world, and in many of them it is the only Masonic obedience. In 1758 a body of Masons was organized in Paris, called "The Council of Emperors of the East and West." This council organized a rite, called the Rite of Perfection, which consisted of twenty-five degrees, the highest being the Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret. In 1761 this council granted a patent or deputation to Stephen Morin to propagate the rite in the Western Continent. He in turn appointed Isaac Da Costa deputy inspector general for South Carolina, who, in 1783, introduced the rite into that state by the establishing of a grand lodge of Perfection, in Charleston. In 1801 a supreme council was opened in Charleston. There is abundant evidence in the archives of the supreme council that up to that time the twenty-five degrees of the Rite of Perfection were alone recognized. But suddenly, with the organization of the supreme council, there arose a new rite, fabricated by the adoption of eight more of the continental high degrees, so as to make the thirty-third, and not the twenty-fifth degree, the summit of the rite. This council, being the first one in the world in this rite, is now known the world over as the Mother Supreme Council of the world. In the Southern jurisdiction there are thirty-two states and territories yielding allegiance to this parent council, besides the District of Columbia, the Hawaiian kingdom, the Empire of Japan, and southern China. These yield direct obedience to the supreme council at Washington, and further, there are several foreign powers with which the supreme council has relation of amity and correspondence. Among these are the Northern jurisdiction of the United States, France and its independencies, Belgium, Italy,

Ireland, England and Wales, and the dependencies of the British crown. Of the latter, his royal highness, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K. G., being grand patron. Scotland, Portugal, Peru, Brazil, Venezuela, United States of Colombia, Argentine Republic, Uruguay, Colon, Estados Unidos de Mexico, Greece, Hungary, Switzerland, Dominion of Canada, Central America, Egypt, Tunis, Republica Dominicana, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Chile and Spain.

MOUNT OLIVET COMMANDERY.

The Commandery is a semi-military organization of Christian Knighthood, the last of the so-called York Rite series. It is an order "founded on the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues." Here, as in no other Masonic body, are the teachings and example of the Saviour brought vividly to the mind of the initiate. Ritually it is supreme, and the lessons taught are ones never to be forgotten. It is modeled in some respects after the ancient Crusaders, although the direct connection is disputed by some authorities.

Mount Olivet Commandery, No. 12, was instituted May 27, 1878, with twenty-one charter members, as follows: M. S. Adams, John D. Pryor, L. K. Myers, George F. Hargis, W. C. Crawford, M. Zimmerly, H. S. Carter, D. W. Cooley, Benj. F. Smith, C. E. Martin, Lewis Lashway, William P. Olmstead, D. S. Black, James S. McWhorter, E. B. Kager, K. F. Smith, G. G. Hewitt, S. P. Channell, A. A. Newman, I. Wildey and W. H. Sternberg, with Moses S. Adams as the first eminent commander. This commandery has for many years ranked high among the commanderies of the state in excellence of work, equipment, and skill in drill. The military feature has always been prominent. This feature has been taken in charge by a drill corps composed of members of the Commandery. This drill corps was first organized on May 24, 1888, with a membership of forty-two, with Winfield S. Corbett as drill master, I. H. Hettinger, president, and H. L. Arnold, secretary-treasurer. Ever since that time the drill corps of Mt. Olivet has been a factor in the competitive drill of this state, and for a number of years has enjoyed a national reputation for excellence of drill. It is now under the leadership of Horace M. Rickards as drill master. For the past four years it has won first prize in the state competition, and in

August, this year, was entered in the national competition at the tri-ennial conclave at Chicago, where a creditable showing was made in competition with the crack drill corps from all over the United States.

The Commandery is in a flourishing condition, with fine equipment, excellent personnel, and a rapidly increasing membership. The stated conclaves are held on the first and third Fridays of each month, in the York Rite Temple, corner First and North Main.

Following is a list of the past eminent commanders: Moses S. Adams, 1879; W. S. Corbett, past grand commander, 1880; J. P. Allen, 1881; Charles A. Walker, 1882; Charles E. Martin, 1883; Oscar D. Barnes, 1884; Jacob H. Aley, 1885; Finlay Ross, 1886; Charles H. Hunter, 1887; Charles M. Jones, 1888; Jacob H. Hollinger, 1889; Robert C. Deam, 1890; Owen B. Stocker, 1891; I. H. Hettinger, 1892; H. L. Gordon, 1893; George L. Pratt, 1894; E. E. Bleckley, 1895; Thomas H. Griffith, 1896; Charles W. Bitting, 1897; W. M. Anawalt, 1898; Thomas G. Fitch, past grand commander, 1899; William H. Herbig, 1900; John L. Powell, 1901; A. B. Wright, 1902; David M. Galusha, 1903; W. H. Harrison, 1904; Fred Stearns, grand senior warden, 1905; F. C. Kirkpatrick, 1906; Fred J. Cossitt, 1907; William J. Frazier, 1908; George H. Willis, 1909.

The present officers are: W. F. McFarland, E. C.; Horace M. Rickards, Gen.; James F. McCoy, C. G.; William J. Frazier, prelate; Harry Wilson, S. W.; W. H. Boston, J. W.; Elsberry Martin, treasurer; F. J. Cossitt, recorder; H. S. Speer, Std. B.; Thomas W. Blunn, Swd. B.; Robert H. Phinney, warden; Benj. Hunt, sentinel. George M. Whitney, 1905; William J. Frazier, 1906; James F. McCoy, 1907; John J. Fegtly, 1908; Reuben S. Lawrence, 1909. Those holding offices now are: William F. McFarland, excellent high priest; Galusha A. King, king; Harvey C. Price, scribe; Elasherry Martin, treasurer; J. J. Fegtly, secretary; Thomas W. Blunn, captain of hosts; William H. Harrison, principal sojourner; W. H. Boston, royal arch captain; R. D. Bordeauk, master third vail; W. C. Davis, master second vail; Thomas E. Hansom, master first vail; Ben Hunt, sentinel. The Chapter meets on the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month, in the hall of Wichita Lodge, No. 99, A. F. & A. M.

SCOTTISH RITE MASONRY.

By

HENRY WALLENSTEIN.

No history of our prosperous state would be complete without a thoroughly comprehensive and detailed account of York Rite Masonry, which, among its 33,657 members, boasts of men in every walk of life and representing our best citizenship. While this is true of Ancient Craft Masonry in the state of Kansas, he would, indeed, be an uninformed historian who failed to give a complete and accurate account of the growth and influence of Scottish Rite Masonry in the valley of Wichita. It is only twenty-four years ago when Bro. T. Giles Smith, 33d°, who, then a newcomer to the Peerless Princess, and who being a member of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and feeling the lack of that friendly and fraternal intercourse he had enjoyed among his brethren of the rite while living in Indianapolis, made the first effort to establish the Scottish Rite bodies in Wichita. Only four brethren responded to his call, and it was not until December, 1886, that twelve charter members, influenced by the zeal and enthusiasm of Bro. T. Giles Smith, decided to ask for a charter from the Supreme Council at Washington, D. C., for the purpose of organizing Elmo Lodge of Perfection, No. 9. From December, 1886, to May 21, 1887, twenty additional members were secured, when the lodge was organized, but it was not until June 9, 1887, that it was properly instituted by Bro. E. T. Carr, 33d°, the sovereign grand inspector general of the state at that time. Struggling under the most unfavorable conditions, the first degree work was done on June 28, 1887, in the Hacker & Jackson business block on East Douglas avenue. The degrees were communicated to the novices in a room furnished with a few cheap chairs; a dry goods box covered with calico was placed in position for altar, while a few tallow candles and several yards of plain bunting, used as hangings, constituted the balance of their paraphernalia. Encouraged, rather than dismayed, by these conditions, and further encouraged by the zealous determination of their leader for final and triumphant success, it was but a few months when additional charters had been secured, which, in November of the same year, enabled the

brethren to institute Wichita Chapter, Rose Croix, No. 5, and Wichita Chapter, Knights Kadosh, No. 5. With three bodies already secured the enthusiasm of this young fraternity knew no bounds, so that on January 25, 1888, Wichita Consistory, the last and highest body of our rite, had been established in this valley.

Only three years elapsed when it became very apparent that their quarters were inadequate to comfortably accommodate the rapidly increasing membership, and not fearing the assumption of a very large indebtedness this comparatively small organization, in January, 1891, bought the little Baptist church on the corner of First and Market streets for \$10,000, and spent an additional \$2,000 remodeling it for their needs. This exceedingly rapid growth was wholly due to the inspiration of the few indefatigable workers (all business men of our then growing city), who had charge of the conferring of degrees and whose aim it ever was to establish here the best Scottish Rite bodies in the Southern jurisdiction. Chief among this band of workers was Bro. C. M. Jones, a recognized authority in Masonic lore and ritualist, besides being a prince among men. He was ably assisted by J. H. Aley 33d°, J. H. McCall 33d°, Ed. Goldberg 33d°, Frank W. Oliver 33d°, Thomas G. Fitch 33d°, E. E. Bleckley 33d°, J. S. Cole 33d°, Charles Bitting 33d°, George L. Pratt 33d°, all of whom had been inspired by the lofty teachings of our glorious rite and felt that its exalted lessons of ethics and morality should be communicated to all worthy brother Master Masons in the jurisdiction. In October, 1891, the membership had increased to 119, and in another twelve months 179 brethren had received the 32°. In November, 1893, 226 was the number who had been made Masters of the Royal Secret, and in the same month of 1896 the total membership had been increased to 341. Again it was manifestly necessary to enlarge our quarters if the rite continued to grow as it had in the previous year. Nothing so thoroughly encouraged us as the success of our undertaking, and guided by the spirit the brethren, in January, 1898, assumed an indebtedness of \$18,000 on the Y. M. C. A. building, to be paid in yearly payments of \$1,000, and expended another \$15,000 for remodeling, scenery and paraphernalia. This new and spacious home was dedicated in May of the same year, when members were initiated amidst scenes of the most commendable enthusiasm.

The hope and dream of him who had been instrumental in establishing the Scottish Rite bodies in Wichita had been fully realized, for in the city then stood what was conceded to be the handsomest Scottish Rite temple in the United States. After a few months of occupancy our bodies suffered their first great loss in the death of their dearly beloved brother, C. M. Jones, who, above all others, had been responsible, with his histrionic ability and tireless efforts, for the proper rendition of our moral and philosophical degrees and for the success thus far attained. While it is true that Bro. J. Giles Smith was and shall henceforth be considered the "father" of Scottish Rite Masonry in Wichita, to Bro. C. M. Jones is due the credit for its marvelous growth up to the time of his death. His was the first funeral conducted in the new temple, it being held at the hour of midnight, a service for the dead who have attained the 33d°. Only a few days after this Master Masonic genius had been carried to his everlasting resting place, Bro. Henry Wallenstein, 33d°, was made director of the work, which position of duty and responsibility he has filled ever since.

The unexpected taking off of Bro. C. M. Jones threatened to prove an irreparable loss to our discouraged brotherhood, for his enthusiasm and zeal had been the inspiration of all his co-workers in the conferring of our degrees. Fully realizing the enormous responsibility of this newly acquired position, Bro. Henry Wallenstein gathered about him all of the former earnest workers, and adding thereto quite a goodly number of newly made and zealous brethren, he endeavored not only to maintain the high standard of perfection already reached by his predecessor, but strove, if possible, to give a broader interpretation to our philosophical, historical and dramatic degrees. His labors were more than arduous on account of the preconceived ideas of the older brethren, who thought that the conception and rendition of our degrees under the direction of Bro. C. M. Jones had reached the acme of perfection. Nothing daunted, however, and with an unfaltering determination to retain the exalted position of our bodies already established in the Southern jurisdiction, and if possible to place them on a still higher plane, he labored incessantly for years to accomplish his laudable ambition. The result of his effort soon manifested itself in the astonishing increase of our already large membership. The beautiful temple, which everyone had supposed would be amply large for all time,

was insufficiently commodious for our needs, and for a third time in our history larger quarters were demanded to comfortably care for the increasing brotherhood. On June 2, 1906, he drew the first lines of the plans of our present temple, which was dedicated on the evening of June 7, 1908, by Bro. James D. Richardson, 33d°, sovereign grand commander of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, and Bros. Franklin Pierce, 33d°, of California; Bro. Charles E. Rosenbaum, 33d°, of Little Rock, Ark.; Bro. Thomas W. Harrison, Topeka, Kan.; sovereign inspector general of our state, Bro. William Busby, of Oklahoma; Bro. H. C. Alverson, of Iowa; all members of Bro. Richardson's official household.

During the dedicatory services the brethren were delighted with a statement made by Bro. James D. Richardson, 33d°, who had just returned from the international Scottish Rite convention in Belgium, and who had visited many other prominent places while on the continent, who said: "It is my pleasure to say to this vast audience that we are assembled in what in my judgment is the handsomest and most perfectly equipped Scottish Rite temple in the world." The following morning, June 8, 1908, at 9 o'clock, began the initiation on a class of 469, the largest in the history of the Southern jurisdiction. After three days of the most painstaking degree work, over 1,300 brethren were conducted into our spacious banquet room, decorated under the supervision of the Southern jurisdiction. After they enjoyed a sumptuous meal, prepared by the ladies of the Eastern Star, and listened to many able addresses by prominent visitors, all of whom pronounced the meeting one of the most successful they had ever attended. No general can win a battle without the assistance of a well disciplined army, neither could Bro. Wallenstein without his many willing helpers, all of whom are ardent and enthusiastic Scottish Rite Masons, have accomplished his wonderful success. It requires about 130 men to perfectly portray the several degrees, while many changes have been made in the years which have elapsed. Bros. Frank Oliver, Thomas G. Fitch, J. H. McCall, Charles W. Bitting, George L. Pratt, E. E. Bleckley, all of them original workers in Scottish Rite Masonry, excepting those who have been called to their last home, are still among the zealous co-laborers of Bro. Wallenstein, thus demonstrating their loyalty to our cause of fraternal brotherhood.

Phenomenal is the only word which will fittingly describe our growth under the leadership of Bro. Wallenstein, but much credit is also due the many brethren who so ably assisted him in his labors for the propagation of our glorious rite. Since his tenure of office as dictator of the work there are many brethren who have never failed to do their full quota of work at each reunion, and it is but just to mention at least a few, while all, no matter what simple assistance they may have rendered, are in a measure responsible for the unstinted commendation which has been bestowed upon the bodies in this valley by all who have had the pleasure of witnessing our rendition of degrees, in which the brethren named are seen in more or less important stations: Fred H. Stuckey, I. W. Gill, W. S. Grant, O. H. Bentley, Edward Vail, August Anderson, F. B. Harris, Richard Bird, C. G. Cohn, Harry R. Jones, J. F. Bennett, I. Goldsmith, Ransom Brown, L. Hays, Bruce Griffith, Floyd Amsden, G. M. Booth, W. G. Price, A. C. Means, M. Kraelsheimer, Harry Cottman, W. H. Harrison, Fred Stanley, W. W. Ledgerwood, Claude Stanley, B. F. Dunkin, A. K. Wilson, Rev. J. D. Ritchey, E. B. Sawyer, John B. House, William M. Shaver, J. F. McCoy, J. Wallenstein, A. D. Taylor, Paul Brown, J. H. Reynolds, Willis Davis, Amos McLain, Ralph Martin, A. S. Buzzi, Rev. George W. Cassidy, F. Stearns, Frank Rebstein, M. L. Truby, William J. Frazier, W. W. Pearce, R. B. Petrie, O. E. Billinger, Henry Lampl, Innes House, J. H. Turner, Franklin L. Payne, John L. Taylor, Floyd W. Hunt, W. T. Rouse, J. E. Luling, Clem Spruance, Homer J. Harden, H. S. Kilgore, A. G. Mueller, M. E. Gates, J. H. Turner, W. Parrott, Herman Hoffman, George Schollenberger, Hal McCoy, Fred Wright, A. C. Means, J. A. Parkinson, B. W. Jaquith, Robert McVicar, H. E. Wilson, W. A. Ayers, O. E. Juengling, M. E. Gates, C. A. Magill, Charles Bergenthal, C. A. Baker, W. H. Schwerhoff, Ray McHugh, W. C. Means, Jay Gill, Lloyd Ray, E. H. Stevens, S. J. Houston, and numerous others, all of whom have been instrumental in gaining the reputation of merit bestowed upon Wichita Consistory. No article written on this subject would be in any sense complete without the special mention of Bro. Bestor G. Brown, past grand master of the Most Worshipped Grand Lodge of the state of Kansas, most able and learned Mason in our state, if not in the United States, a gifted gentleman of the highest type and in its truest sense. For years, sacrificing his business interests,

he has rendered Bro. Wallenstein invaluable assistance in the portrayal of our historical and dramatic degrees. Nor should we forget to give due credit to Bros. S. A. Hanlan, of Newton; B. Nussbaum, of Hutchinson; Wilbur H. Rice, of Hoisington, J. W. Wright, 33d°, of Independence; Wallace T. Rouse, Wichita, who by their love and zeal, together with their untiring efforts in behalf of our bodies, have succeeded in securing an unusually large quota of our present membership of 2,400 Scottish Rite Masons.

Whatever the success reached by our great brotherhood, if measured only by its material growth and progress, it would be worse than worthless. Philosophy teaches us that the entire world changes with every breath we exhale—when we drop a tiny pebble in the seething expanse of the ocean, the circle which is formed grows wider and larger until it reaches the farthest shore, then rebounding, continues its inconceivable travel with infinitesimal effect until the end of time.

Realizing the logical force of this well established and scientific truth, we must unhesitatingly accept the indisputable conclusion that the enabling and exalted teachings of Scottish Rite Masonry, founded on the religious code of Moses, Zoroaster, Confucius, Mohammed and Jesus of Nazareth, which are the adamantine foundation of our present-day civilization, and these being instilled into the receptive and matured minds of our 2,400 brethren must of necessity influence their lives for good, making of them better and nobler husbands, fathers and brothers, giving them a higher and better conception of God, and beautifying their religious beliefs, dispelling from their minds intolerance, bigotry, superstition and fanaticism, filling their souls with a spirit of charity, love and duty toward their fellow man, broadening their ideals of liberty and making of them more loyal and patriotic citizens, devoted to our glorious stars and stripes, that banner of freedom, the pride and glory of our own dear land. May the day not be far distant when our altruistic teachings may be the portion of humanity. Then and not until then will Scottish Rite Masonry have fulfilled its mission; then and not until then will its influence for good have been ultimately established in the minds of the entire human family, when all will accept the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.—A Scottish Rite Mason.

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.**By****THE EDITOR.**

If Wichita is noted for any one thing more than another, it is the fact that it is distinctively a Masonic town. All of the Masonic rites are represented here; three blue lodges make up the early degrees, and, in addition to this, these lodges are all very prosperous; they own their own property and have money at interest. Albert Pike Lodge is the youngest lodge in Wichita, but has the largest membership of any lodge in Kansas. Only a few months since a charter was granted to organize a Shrine temple. With its usual vim, the Masonic brethren took hold of the Shrine, and Midian Temple today numbers a membership of more than 500. George H. Bradford is the efficient Imperial Potentate, and James F. McCoy the energetic Recorder of the Shrine. The Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine is a flourishing one, and this rite has made arrangements with the trustees of the Masonic Temple whereby they occupy that building, the finest building in the West devoted entirely to Masonry. The Shrine is noted for its fine banquets, its general good fellowship and its unsurpassed patrol.

WICHITA: A MASONIC TOWN.**By****A CRAFTSMAN.**

All branches of Masonry are represented in Wichita and Sedgwick county, and the rites of this order are in full form and strength. The Scottish and York Rites are strong, and the Order of the Mystic Shrine is especially flourishing. The membership of the orders existing in Wichita take in today a membership in every state in the Union, and even in the isles of the sea. Some of the most distinguished Masons in the state and nation hold their membership in Wichita. It is likely that Wichita holds today more distinguished and eminent Masons than any city of its size on the American continent. The following is a list of those brethren in Wichita who have attained the distinc-

tion of the thirty-third degree, Inspectors General Honorary: John L. Powell, Thomas G. Fitch, James H. McCall, Paul Brown, Charles G. Cohn, Henry Wallenstein, Frederic H. Stuckey, Frank W. Oliver, Orsemus H. Bentley, William S. Grant, Elmer E. Bleckley, Leland L. Newcomb, Edward Vail, Salmon T. Tuttle, Isaac Goldsmith, Floyd A. Amsden, George L. Pratt and Isaac W. Gill.

KANSAS MASONIC HOME AND CHAPEL.

There is an institution in West Wichita that is always spoken of and pointed out by citizens with pride. Not only is it the pride of Wichita, but the whole state is proud of the Kansas Masonic Home. In the early days of Wichita this building was considered the handsomest home in the city. It was built by R. E. Lawrence. It was a handsome gray stone residence set in the midst of fifteen acres of lawn, garden, orchard and grove. In 1896 the Grand Lodge of Kansas bought the property, valued at \$75,000, for \$21,000, and on September 10, 1896, the Kansas Masonic Home was dedicated. Since that time nearly one hundred thousand dollars have been spent on buildings alone. The paving of Seneca street on the east side and Maple street on the north and the sewer tax have cost nearly nine thousand dollars. A building has just been completed to be known as the Isolation Cottage. Many times the entire family has been quarantined on account of some contagious disease among the children. Now those who are sick or have been exposed can be isolated and cared for in a modern cottage, thoroughly furnished and equipped with everything necessary for their care. This improvement, with its furnishings, will cost nearly nine thousand dollars.

There is a stone chapel built and furnished by the Order of Eastern Star at a cost of over ten thousand dollars, and this order has supplied the home with nearly all its furniture and is now thoroughly equipping the Isolation Cottage with electric lights, gas stoves and all furniture and bedding. The beneficiaries of the Home are aged Master Masons, their wives or widows and children of the members of the Order Eastern Star. Since its opening it has given shelter to almost two hundred of these needy old people and helpless little children. The old people come here expecting to spend their declining days and finally to

be laid away to sleep in the home lot in Maple Grove Cemetery. The children come to remain until educated and fitted for some station in life. It is a gratifying fact that, so far, every child who has gone out from the home has made good in the positions they have been called upon to fill, thus proving that the discipline and moral training received in the home has been a blessing to them. The home is maintained by a per capita tax of 50 cents per annum from the membership of the Grand Lodge of Kansas and 10 cents per annum from the Order Eastern Star of Kansas. The superintendent of this splendid Wichita institution is James Snedden, and the matron is his wife, Mrs. Mary C. Snedden. They have had charge of the home more than years, and have done much to make it what it is.

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JEREMIAH GILES SMITH.

By

THE EDITOR.

I have been requested by a large representation of the membership of Wichita Consistory, No. 2, the largest consistory in the Southern Jurisdiction, to give a space to Jeremiah Giles Smith (33), the real founder of Wichita Consistory. This is not only the duty that I owe the dead, but it is a great pleasure. To no single individual, dead or alive, is the membership of Wichita Consistory so much indebted as to Brother Giles Smith. Early and late, in season and out of season, his heart was in the work. Through evil and good repute he stood by his guns, and let no man, now that he is dead, seek to snatch his well earned laurels from his brow. He was easily the foremost Mason in Sedgwick county, and passed away without an enemy in the world. In his death the fraternity lost a tower of strength and a tireless worker for a great cause. "The noblest Roman of them all, his sword hangs rusting on the wall."

Born August 30, 1851, at Winchester, Ind., Brother Smith was made a Master Mason in Mystic Tie Lodge, No. 398, at Indianapolis, Ind., August 21, 1876. In the Scottish Rite he received the degrees from the fourth to the thirty-second, inclusive, in the bodies of the Rite in Indianapolis, Ind. In 1882 Brother Smith removed to Kansas and located in the young and thrifty city of

Wichita. Dinitting from the Scottish Rite bodies in Indianapolis, he took an active part in the establishment of the Rite in that young city, and as the different bodies were instituted, he became a charter member of each, and was the first Master of Kadosh, and for several years he was the Deputy of the Inspector General of Kansas, always active and zealous in the advancement of the Rite. He was elected a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor, October 18, 1888, and for his valuable labors in behalf of the Rite he was elected to receive the thirty-third degree at the same session of the Supreme Council, which honor was conferred upon him by the Inspector General of Kansas, with the assistance of others, November 17, 1888.

While not alone in his labors and efforts in behalf of the Scottish Rite bodies at Wichita, no one is entitled to greater credit than he, and he lived to see the bodies there become foremost in the Grand Jurisdiction, and in possession of the finest cathedral in the land devoted exclusively to the Scottish Rite. Brother Smith died very suddenly at his home, January 13, 1909.

TRADES AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS IN WICHITA.

Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, Wichita Lodge, No. 356. Meets every Sunday morning at 211 East Douglas avenue; S. F. Ayler, president; J. W. Taylor, secretary; O. A. McIlvain, financial secretary.

Ladies' Auxiliary, Peerless Princess Lodge, No. 349, B. of R. T. Meets second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 211 East Douglas avenue; Mrs. Alice Hibberd, president; Mrs. Stella Bumstead, V. M.; Mrs. Minnie Stewart, secretary; Mrs. Lucretia Davis, treasurer.

Order of Railway Conductors, Wichita Division, No. 338. Meets second and fourth Sundays of each month at 211 East Douglas avenue; L. W. Cregger, C. C.; August Anderson, secretary.

Peerless Princess Division, No. 221, Ladies Auxiliary to O. R. C. Meets first and third Wednesdays of each month at Maccabees' Hall; Mrs. Mattie Gray, president; Mrs. Hylda Hollingsworth, vice president; Mrs. Elizabeth Nichols, secretary and treasurer.

OTHER SECRET SOCIETIES.

By

RODOLPH HATFIELD.

Wichita is noted for its many secret societies, and is a state-wide preferred general lodge meeting place. Its location and superior railroad connection with all portions of the state make it a very general annual rallying point for all manner and name of fraternal orders.

ODD FELLOWS.

Wichita Lodge, No. 93, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 24, 1872, the charter members being George W. Reeves, B. C. Purcell, Frank Hamilton, H. W. Kendle, Charles Eckardt, J. N. Warren and W. J. Hobson.

The Wichita Encampment, No. 29, I. O. O. F., was granted a charter October 11, 1876, with C. C. Furley, W. A. Richey, W. J. Hobson, H. H. Peckham, T. H. Minnick, W. P. Stem and M. W. Levy as charter members.

From this early beginning have grown Queen City Lodge, No. 296; West Side Lodge, No. 345; North Wichita Lodge, No. 348, with their complementary Rebekah lodges, constituting the most numerous secret order membership in the city.

ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.

Wichita Lodge, No. 22, A. O. U. W., was chartered November 1, 1879, with thirteen members. There is now Peerless Lodge, No. 271, A. O. U. W., besides two complementary Degree of Honor lodges, all with a large and enthusiastic membership.

There are likewise several fraternities known as Modern Woodmen of America, Woodmen of the World, Fraternal Aid, Eagles, Red Men, Knights of Pythias, Knights and Ladies of Security, Fraternal Brotherhood, Fraternal Mystic Circle, Fraternal Union of America, Hermann's Soehne, Highland Nobles, as well as some other and newer organizations. Many of the foregoing are open to both men and women.

The colored people, too, have their branches of many of the old line and newer fraternal societies.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN WICHITA.

By

DR. A. H. FABRIQUE.

Noble Prentiss, who was one of the most distinguished writers and newspaper men of Kansas, once said that in this state there were two kinds of doctors—"one kind was called Doctor, and the other kind was called Doc." Wichita has had both kinds. It would take a lexicon to cover all of the various doctors which Wichita has had, and it would take several lexicons to cover all of the kinds of doctors who have in the past come and gone in this city. Through all of the changing years of good times and bad, of good crops and bad, through drouths, and grasshoppers, and all of the ills and vicissitudes of a new country like Sedgwick county, and a frontier town like Wichita, I might say it has been "a survival of the fittest." It took a great deal of nerve to practice medicine in Sedgwick county prior to the eighties. Since then it has been easier. I came to the county in 1870, and began actual and active practice in 1870. Prior to 1880 I can readily recall those of my profession in Wichita. Wichita was about the only town of any population prior to that time. I can recall the names of most of the early doctors in Wichita prior to that time. Dr. E. B. Allen, Dr. Oatley, Dr. H. Owens and the writer came to Wichita in 1870. Dr. W. T. Hendrickson and Dr. Furley came to Wichita in 1871. Dr. C. E. McAdams and Dr. A. J. Longsdorf came to Wichita in 1872. The writer is the only survivor of the early M. D.'s. At that time there were no hospitals in Wichita; it was all the old-time practice and a following of the old-time methods. In those days the physician went to the patient; now the patient very largely comes to him. New methods have supplanted the old rules, and these are to the credit of the profession and greatly to the benefit of the patient.

Dr. Furley was twice president of the Kansas State Medical Society. In those days the practice of the Wichita doctor extended to the Walnut river on the east, to Newton on the north, to the Indian Territory on the south, and to the west as far as one could ride in two days. Dr. Allen was the first mayor of Wichita, was state representative, and afterward was secretary of state of the State of Kansas. Many times the doctor was called to distant points, making the trip on horseback. Sometimes the trip was made on the old familiar buckboard, and oftentimes the doctor was compelled to go into camp to rest himself and team before beginning his return journey. In gunshot wounds, which were many, we used the old-time army instruments. Antiseptics were unknown in those days, and all surgical instruments were of a crude pattern.

The District Medical Association was organized here in 1878. It took in the counties of Sedgwick, Butler, Harvey, Sumner, Reno and Cowley. In 1874 the doctors began to settle in other portions of Sedgwick county, Dr. Tucker settling in Derby and Dr. Goddard settling in Sedgwick in 1875; in the year 1880 a number settled in the smaller towns, notably Dr. Shannon in Cheney and Dr. Dwight in Mt. Hope. The old guard of the profession has largely passed away.

WICHITA HOSPITAL NEEDED EVERY DAY.

By

MRS. GEORGE L. PRATT,

President Board of Directors of Wichita Hospital.

September 9, 1885, a small band of earnest women met in Wichita and organized the Ladies' Benevolent Home, and a house on South Market street was selected for its quarters. Its object was to give temporary relief to the homeless and sick. That this was needed was proven by the broadening fields of their labor and the increasing demands for the care of the sick which were made upon the association. The better, therefore, the association, the better, therefore, to fulfil the object of the founders and meet the demands of the people. In January, 1887, the institution was incorporated under the title, Ladies' Benevolent Home and

Hospital. A trained nurse was employed, a staff of physicians selected, and, with more commodious quarters, in the building now known as the Rescue Home, the institution began its career. In May, 1889, full hospital work was being done, and the association became the Wichita Hospital.

With the increase of patronage of the hospital came the realization that competent nurses, trained for the work, were absolutely essential to its success, so in 1896 the management inaugurated a training school and the institution was reincorporated as the Wichita Hospital and Training School for Nurses.

Early in the year 1898 the great work that this institution was accomplishing, and its crowded condition in its old quarters, was brought to the notice of a benevolent gentleman in Boston, and to his kindness and generosity the association is indebted for the present home of the hospital. Through the liberality of the Wichita people and the untiring efforts of the board of twenty women, it has been reconstructed and transformed into the present modern and well equipped hospital building. But with the growth of the city the demand for hospital accommodations has increased, and again the Wichita Hospital needs larger quarters. For a long time the board of directors has felt the need of a new building, and has planned an annex with bright, cheerful rooms, large verandas, operating rooms modern in all equipment, an obstetrical ward, and new dormitories for the nurses. And what is needed most of all is the co-operation of the people of Wichita in helping the women of the board to raise the funds necessary to carry out their plans and build a hospital that Greater Wichita will be proud to have bear the name of the Wichita Hospital.

CHAPTER XXXV.

SCRAPS OF LOCAL HISTORY.

There were law suits there, cases of replevin, in which the judgment was given to one side, and to the other the payment of costs in order to keep any feeling of triumph on either side down. The dram-shop was a center of interest. At that time Kansas had some sort of a dram-shop law, and before a dram-shop could be started a petition had to be presented to the board of county commissioners granting permission. This petition had to be signed by a majority of the residents, male and female, in the township. It is charged that the women were generally against the establishment of dram-shops, and that in order to secure their names a petition for a new road was circulated, the heading being cut off after all the women had signed it, and a dram-shop petition heading substituted. One day there was a suit in replevin before Justice Zimmermann, of Park City. A man had taken up another man's horse and had failed to advertise it. The owner of the horse tried to take him without paying the feed bill, alleging that as the holder hadn't advertised he did not have to pay the feed bill. The owner, becoming the plaintiff, replevined the horse. The case was tried with great bitterness; the plaintiff got his horse and was made to pay the feed bill, while the defendant had to pay the costs. This was the first case Ed. Jewett ever tried in Sedgwick county, for which he received \$3 fees, representing the plaintiff. The case was finished at sunset. At 4 o'clock the next morning Jewett was summoned from his bed and met both plaintiff and defendant. They were not quarreling. They had started home, got lost, and had been circling until they struck the Jewett farm. But the narration. Wichita wanted the Santa Fe south from Newton. It was necessary to vote bonds. Park City set out to defeat those bonds. The election which followed was the most wonderful in the annals of Kansas.

A cowboy coming into Wichita from the South, smelling emphatically of Mexican associations, early election morning, was pulled down off his horse and told to vote. "I ain't a citi-

zen," he said. "That makes no difference. Are you in favor of a railroad?" "Bet your life." "Crawl down and vote." "But I'm from San Antonio." "That's all right. Go ahead and vote." Half-breeds from the woods about Ft. Gibson, bull-whackers from the rocks about Ft. Sill, Indian traders from Medicine Lodge, everybody who happened to be in town, was voted for a railroad to Wichita. There is no evidence on the charge, but with these conditions prevailing, some men voted twice. A memory is liable to be treacherous at such a time. But Park City was outdoing Wichita. Freighters from Pike's Peak were compelled to cast their ballots against railroads. Men from the Smoky Hill and all along the trail were grabbed up and made to voice their sentiments, whether they had any sentiments on the matter or not. The leaders at Park City were not "literary" in any sense of the word. They had arranged a long list of fictitious names. For each name they put in a ballot against the railroad bonds. The voting place did not close at 6 o'clock, but at 2 o'clock the next morning the vote was still in progress. And the names gave out! Their former acquaintances back in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, some dead and gone, were voted.

At 3 o'clock a committee woke up the late Judge W. T. Jewett and asked him to "think up some new names!"

The end of it all was that Wichita won out. Park City, with its 300 inhabitants, cast 1,000 votes. Park City waned. A fire carried off one of its largest buildings. Others were moved away. By 1879 all that marked its site, except the little grave, was a bunch of yellow Scotch thistles and a depression in the ground, once the beer cellar of the dramshop. All is now gone but this small depression. The townsite was sold for taxes and was bought by W. and N. McClees, and thereafter passed through various hands. That is the story of Park City.

The land on which it stood is now owned by J. W. Laming and Zaring Laning and John Page, an engineer on the Missouri Pacific. Two of the families who were there then and still live in the vicinity are the Jewetts and the Pauls. One of the last scenes in the history of the town was the action of Hockins, one of the founders. He gathered up a lot of coyotes, wolves, polecats, deer and buffalo and set out for Indiana to exhibit them. Whatever became of him and his menagerie is as big a mystery as the present whereabouts of the Countess, with her long, flowing hair and her titled estates in England.

Note: Park City was at one time the rival county seat of Wichita.—Editor.

PARK CITY AND WICHITA AND THEIR ASTONISHING CONTEST.

By

E. B. JEWETT.

The recent death of Judge W. T. Jewett removes from the theater of the West one of the last characters in the memorable contest between Wichita and Park City, the only rival this city has ever known. The story has passed out of the minds of many who once knew it. To many others it is strangely fiction-new. Here is a city of broad pavements, of long, shaded streets, of beautiful homes, of multiplied political complications, of entangled commercial competition, of accumulating and clashing professional ambitions. There, the spot once religiously despised and bitterly hated as a rival, the yellow-sheathed cornstalks crackle and wave their wizened arms in solitude, over a hollow in the ground, slowly filling as the years go by, and coming at last to the extinction of a common level. The contest between the two towns has long ago lost its significance, in the wall of accumulating years which bar the present from the issues of the past. To most people of Wichita, Park City is mythical. But it was once a "city," worthy of many a violent oath, worthy of being condemned, and worthy of an aggressive enmity.

There were wintry nights when, in the Wichita dramshop, at the slivered pine bar, the cow-spurs clinked an accompaniment to a long Homeric narration in derogation of the location of Park City. And on the same night a crowd, equally worthy to all eyes save those of Fate, gathered in the dramshop of Park City and mixed anathemas against Wichita with a very ragged and barbed variety of sheep-dip. The verity was that the contention grew from the very lack of argument on either side, for anger flourishes most without any vestige of reason about it. Both Wichita and Park City were located on a table-flat bottom. Both rested next to the Big river (the Arkansas). The banks of the Arkansas were higher at Park City, a most momentous claim, offset by Wichita's insistence that this was the junction of the Big and

Little Arkansas. The latter claim was pooh-hoohed by Park City, while the high-bank advantage of Park City was outraged by high-colored ridicule in Wichita. The real contest ended in the most remarkable election ever held on earth. No western Kansas contest of after years could equal it, for in western Kansas there was the skeleton of law. In the contest between Wichita and Park City there was not an outline of righteousness.

Park City was located in 1870, fourteen miles northwest of Wichita. Its site lies now five miles directly west of Valley Center, between the Big and Little Arkansas. The location is admittedly today very beautiful for a town. Here the serpentine Arkansas swings into a great bend, and at this bow, to the east and north of it, the pretentious City of Park was platted. The bottom is higher than at Wichita, and in the large city mapped out a gorgeous park was reserved. Nereus Baldwin, now of this city, had pre-empted eighty acres at this point, which the Park City boomers secured. The prime movers in the location of the town were a lawyer named Nichols, a man named McIlvane, and Frank Hockins. The site was chosen with due design. The Santa Fe Railroad, on its ambitious way to the old city of Santa Fe, in New Mexico, had reached Newton. The first survey out of Newton carried the road southwesterly through the northwest corner of Sedgwick, through the Indian Territory partly, and into New Mexico, missing Colorado entirely. This was following an old trail, for the Santa Fe trail curved down nearly to Park City from the north, in order to strike the Arkansas valley quickly. Large, imposing maps of the city were made and sent East, showing a perfect network of avenues, and in the center the large park with the mythical trees marked plainly and with brilliant prodigality. Near the townsite were W. T. Jewett, on a farm; Dan Bright, now deceased, but a prominent man of late years in Larned; Col. James Hammon, of Virginia, and Mr. Paul, now deceased. At that time Park City had about 300 people, and was very prosperous, as much on its prospects as anything else, although most of the people in the country west of it and many on the land north of it traded there. There were three large stores, among other things, and the inevitable dramshop.

The founders of the town were confident—alas! too confident—as events proved. The Santa Fe determined on its plug branch south from Newton to a point to meet the Texas cattle trail. Park City and its founders were high-headed and possessed a

goodly share of the earth, in their imagination. It is said, but this is not authentic, that the Santa Fe offered to come directly south from Newton to Park City, in return for a portion of the townsite. But the owners of that townsite valued it. It was not to be parted with frivolously, and this offer they refused. Park City's magnetic powers were greater than a corporation's greed, and Park City took her stand of defiance. The railroad would have to come to the town. It could not, indeed, survive without the town. But that is getting ahead of the story. In Park City were many characters. One of these was Mr. Nichols, a very brilliant lawyer, who had a very fine library. Another character was an English woman—at least she said she was. She claimed her first husband was an English count, and gave the name of his estate, since forgotten. Her second husband was a common citizen of Park City, without any noble appendage in the way of title. By her first husband she had one daughter, and in that daughter she centered all her ambition, believing—holding, at any rate—that some day the daughter would succeed to the earldom. In obedience to this belief, the daughter, a young woman, was called by her mother, with a defiant persistency, "The Countess." And after a time the city began to call her "The Countess." She was, in time, known by no other name. The Countess was a very fine specimen of humanity, fair of face and buxom of figure, with a wealth of cascading brown hair, which she always wore streaming down over her shoulders. She had many suitors, accoutred in broad sombreros and spurs and heavy top boots. None, in the known history of Park City, won her heart.

One day the husband of the Countess' mother dropped dead on the street. Nichols, the lawyer, believed there had been foul play. He sent for the coroner, Dr. Owens, of Wichita, who did not arrive until the next day, by which time the dead man had been removed to his wife's home. The widow had heard the evil suspicions against her and the talk of a post-mortem examination, and when Dr. Owens and the jury of twelve good men and true hove up to the front door, the widow, planting herself squarely in the door, began:

"Enter, gentlemen, at your peril. Coke on Common Law: 'A domicile is sacred to its inmates.' Page 306. Blackstone: 'A man's home is his castle.' Page 207. Chitty on Tenantry: 'The law extends to the family door-step.' Page 20."

The jury wavered and fell back. The dead man was not cut

open. The law the widow quoted was afterwards found to be false and extemporaneous. In justice to the widow, it must be said that she did not poison her husband. But at that moment the panicstricken jury timidly returned a verdict of heart disease. One day a certain long and lanky cow-puncher struck town and was at once smitten with the beautiful Countess. With a suppressed headyness he waited three days before making an out-and-out proposal of marriage, which the Countess rejected. The unhappy suitor thereupon began to "shoot up" the town. He was seized by the citizens and locked in a lawyer's office, where, two days later, after some protocoling, he promised to be good in return for his liberty, which was given him. The town occasionally had its funerals. One of the citizens was a sterling young man. He had proposed to one of the young women of the town and they were soon to be married. They had talked together for hours or strolled hand in hand along the bank of the river, building on the future when Park would be a great city, and their ships had come in. But he died. The young woman for years kept his grave green and was true to his memory. Year by year, as adverse fortune came creeping in on the little place, she was true to her trust. One by one the buildings were hauled away or toppled down from desertion and decay; one by one the rude head-boards to the graves in the little cemetery tumbled over and were appropriated for incomplete hog-pens or other purposes of utility. Year by year the rural quiet ate into the heart of the little place, until cornfield stillness came at last, and all was obliterated but that one grave, still ever green and neat. The faithful one had other suitors, but her heart was steadfast. As the years went by she heard of the rival city of Wichita's growth, and came once or twice to see it, and then returned to Park City and its lone vestige—the grave she loved so well. But years ago she died of a broken heart, they say, at last, and the little grave surrendered to thistles and sunflowers and disappeared at last, as all its fellows in the past.

WICHITA: CITY OF THE NEW WEST.

Out there on the gently undulating and fertile plains of Kansas, away from the Father of Waters, and still removed from the Rockies, is arising a great kingdom—the kingdom of the New West. The Old West was a place of short grass and long horns;

of sweeping, dreaming distances; pregnant, potential, unawakened earth. The New West is a place of long grass and short horns; awakened vitality, springing up through green stalk and mighty tree trunk; richness pouring up through alfalfa, corn, wheat. In material wealth this kingdom is becoming fabulously rich, for its wildness has been subdued, and Ingalls' benignant blue grass has worked its wonder in superseding the prairie grass. And the capital of the New West is Wichita, a city of 60,000 people. The New West is the home of a people noted for hospitality, open-heartedness and good will toward men. So the traveler in visiting Wichita is pleased to find that its metropolis in every way exemplifies these graces. When the editors of Kansas recently visited Wichita, they were allowed to march behind the town band—just like they longed to do when they were boys—to the corner-stone laying of the first Wichita skyscraper, which, by the way, was the dedication of a Greater Wichita, the marking of a new epoch. This shows just what Wichita is. It is a great, big, husky, red-blooded boy of a city—strong, and growing, jolly, good-hearted. It has not developed the foolish bored air of the large old city; it is too fragrant of fresh earth to despise what gives it life—agriculture. It has none of the cheap cynicism which laughs at country-bred people and at the same time depends upon the country people for an existence. It takes a boyish delight in its recreations and achievements and is boyishly optimistic.

Wichita is too large to have the curses of the small town—people who spend most of their time at the business of others, gossips, town rows. It is too small to have the curses of the great city—slums, under-world, the frenzied fight for existence. And it can and will be a city of half a million without having any of these evils, for it is started right, in the right place. No one can travel up and down the Arkansas valley, with its developing central part and its upper part just stirring from its age-long dream, without feeling that to be true. Wichita's growth is not purely material, for, with its average of five new houses each day, and daily thousands invested in new industrial enterprises, there is keeping step the moral, civic and artistic interest. The enforcement of law and the adoption of a new and improved system of government, the existence of several colleges, music and art schools and churches, these things are the proofs. The structures

are built of stone, steel, concrete, brick. There are no false fronts and no cardboard scenery in Wichita.—Cimarron “Jacksonian.”

WICHITA.

By

MACK P. CRETCHER.

(Of the Sedgwick (Kan.) “Pantagraph.”)

Wichita! What memories cluster around the name! Memories of achievement in the strenuous past, promises of greatness in the mightier future. Scarce forty years since the coyote skulked through the undulating sea of blue-stem where Wichita now stands. A brief span since buffalo grazed and the shy prairie hen nested where now stand substantial edifices of brick and stone. Founded by men with the restless red blood of the pioneer in their veins—men with Western brain and courage and confidence—Wichita's growth has been as wonderful as a chapter from the Arabian Nights. Her greatness is not alone in her miles of paved streets, her skyscrapers, factories, churches, schools or homes, but in her magnificent citizenship that has made her dreams reality. Here men have stood shoulder to shoulder since the first bleak sod shack arose beside the tepee. Here the investor has been welcomed and encouraged as a brother. Always and ever the indomitable faith in Wichita and her future. Always a willingness to dig deep into the pocket to furnish the sinews of war, firm in the conviction that the dollar spent for Wichita would return as bread cast upon the waters.

Today Wichita stands a city of 50,000 people. A new generation from the old pioneer stock is taking over the reins. Forty years of struggle and achievement have whitened the heads of the sturdy empire builders. Their sons and daughters are stepping into line and accepting the load with the loyalty and courage of youth. With the magnificent vantage gained in the brief span of forty years, where is the limit for the bounding blood and keen brain of the new generation? Today Wichita is only in the swaddling clothes of her greatness. Her territory, the Great Southwest, is as yet in the inception of its development, a mere scratching of the surface, exposing the outcroppings that lead to the

mother lode. To the sons and daughters of the men who have builded a city of 50,000 population in forty years, there is no limit of possibility. That a city of 250,000 will spring from the Wichita of today is by no means as wild a prophecy as that the present metropolis of the Southwest should arise from the Indian camp and trader's store in less than half a century. The golden stream of Kansas grain is just beginning to trickle through Wichita to the gulf. The packing industry is yet in its infancy. The proud boast of the jobbers of today will cause a smile when millions of people of the Southwest look to Wichita as a distributing center—and millions will some day look, mark that! The 1,800 homes built in Wichita the past year will be but the domiciles of pioneers who got in on the ground floor. In the dawn of her greatness, Wichita stands beckoning, the smile of confidence upon her lips. She still holds wide the door of Hope.

THE PIONEER REAL ESTATE DEALERS.

The pioneer real estate dealers in Wichita and Sedgwick county largely gave to the county and city its first impetus toward a large population and consequent prosperity. John M. Steele, or Jim Steele, as he was known far and near, was a pioneer in this line. The old firm of Steele & Levy, composed of J. M. Steele and Morris W. Levy, were among the early real estate men of this valley. John Stewart, afterward one of the richest men in Kansas, was associated with them; so was Doc Mann, Charley Stanley and others. Steele is now dead; died in Tacoma, Wash.; Levy is retired from business and lives in New York; Healy and Neiderlander came next in point of time; Pat Healy and Nick Neiderlander composed this firm, and they were hustlers; Neiderlander lives in St. Louis and Pat Healy is still here, and Wichita would feel lonesome without him. Jocelyn and Thomas were active in the early eighties; both are dead; Al Thomas died in St. Louis, and Colonel Jocelyn died a short time ago in this city. This firm were active sellers and price-makers on the realty market. Later on came a vast number of realty men who have in many ways helped to develop Wichita and Sedgwick county. One thing we can always admire in the real estate men of Wichita, and that is their unswerving loyalty to their town and locality. To them there is no town so promising as Wichita, and no county in all the bounding West so fertile as Sedgwick.—Editor.

THE STORY OF THE PEERLESS PRINCESS.

When the men who first stood at the confluence of the two Arkansas rivers and with prophetic vision saw into the future and declared that here was the place to found a city, men laughed at them. When that city was founded and the trade of the great Southern empire was turned this way, filling the coffers of the early merchants and bringing prosperity to all who had the enterprise to engage in business, men thought again that they saw something of the greatness which was to come to this city of the plains, but there were doubters still. When, at a later period, dreamers came from the East and adding their faith to that of those already here, and commenced to build a city far in advance of the needs of the country, some men again said that Wichita was to be great, and others scoffed. Of this period in its history the least said the better. Suffice to say that the dreams of the pioneer, the later business enthusiast and then of the boomer have all at last been realized, and Wichita stands today a monument to the business sagacity and the unwavering faith of all the men who have given their best efforts for its building, and the scoffers have been silenced. All know the Wichita of today, with her splendid railroad facilities, her magnificent commercial enterprises, her manufactories, her thousands of workingmen, her fine parks, her good schools, her fine churches, her handsome business houses, her "up-to-now" citizenship, and her determined advancement to the metropolitan leadership of the Southwest, indispensable alike to the great West and to Mexico, the pivot on which the business future of the great Southwest, the commercial prospects of half two nations must revolve in the growth of the next century. There are a few throughout the Southwest who have kept in touch with the city's progress, and these few remember from what a small beginning has grown the Wichita of today. For the information of those who have more recently come to try their fortunes in this great empire, a terse but truthful description of the town as it used to be is here given:

"Wichita, 485 miles from St. Louis, 723 miles from El Paso, and 1983 miles from San Francisco, was one of the great way points on the great Santa Fe trail. This was the first rapid line across the continent. John Butterfield and his associates were paid \$600,000 a year for carrying tri-weekly mails between St. Louis and San Francisco. Ruling influences in congress and the

White House compelled them to adopt a far Southern route through Kansas, touching Wichita, the Indian Territory, Texas and Arizona, while a branch line from Memphis joined the main stem at Fort Smith, Ark. The coaches ran day and night, ordinarily going from St. Louis to San Francisco in twenty-one days, though the law allowed them twenty-five. It was the longest stage route in the world. Wichita in those days was nothing more or less than a trading post and a way station, where travelers refreshed themselves and the stage drivers changed horses. The next way station was many miles farther Southwest, and the drive was through a very unsettled country, principally inhabited by ranchmen and a few Indians. Habitual gambling was universal, from the boys' game of pitching quartillas (3-cent pieces Mexican money) to the great saloons where silver dollars were staked at monte."

In view of the picture here drawn when contrasted with the present day Wichita, it is little wonder that some are amazed and others have been led to become satisfied with the transformation. It is not, however, in its past that Wichita is great. Its greatness lies in what it is yet to be.

Never in the history of the country did a city have such a future, a future contingent upon that eternal vigilance which is the price of success, a future contingent upon unremitting labor and determination, a future contingent upon lack of fatuous folly of being content with winning the first lap in the race. Wichita is to become a metropolis, which will be greater commercially than St. Louis, greater in population than Denver and excelled in resource and importance by no city on the continent. The greatness of Wichita is not contingent upon the efforts of its citizens alone nor upon its location geographically. It is situated in the midst of the richest agricultural and stock country in the world, and from these industries, which in the last analysis form the foundation of all prosperity, the town will continue as in the past to derive the nourishment on which it is to develop. It was agriculture that made Cairo the wonder of Egypt and the envy of the world. It was agriculture that made all the great cities of middle Europe. It was agriculture that made Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Omaha, Kansas City and others of the most prosperous cities of this country, and it is to agriculture that Wichita owes the greatest measure of its present success and to which it must look for much of its success in time to come.

The fertile lands of the territory surrounding Wichita for a distance of two or three hundred miles are sufficient to produce grain and stock and fruit and hay sufficient to supply the needs of a territory that is great in extent. A large proportion of these products find their way by natural channels to this logical center of trade, where they are manufactured into usable form or exchanged for other necessities. In this way the surrounding country is not only benefited, but Wichita is made to grow. It is to impress upon the people of the Southwest something of the importance of this interdependent relation which ought to exist between the citizens of the more remote sections and this natural distributing center, that these excursions by the business men of Wichita have been organized and sent out year after year. Wichita is dependent upon the country with which it is surrounded, but at the same time as it becomes more and more prosperous it is in position to aid in making other portions of the country prosperous. A proper recognition of this fact will do much to make Wichita all that present-day prophets predict for it and make it a city of 100,000 within the next five years.

CIRCUS DAY IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.

The old time circus in Sedgwick county, always held at Wichita, used to draw a great crowd. Wichita has always been a great circus town. It used to be said that in the hard times and during the dull times, when the crops were short, that the farmer sold his cook stove and came in to the circus just the same. Sells and Floto with their circus always draw a big crowd in Wichita; Ringling Brothers with their acres of canvas always draw for miles around; Buffalo Bill always held that Wichita was one of his big show towns. One of the greatest accidents connected with the Rock Island railway was the night of the last show of Buffalo Bill in Wichita. A heavily loaded bus of people headed for the Buffalo Bill show east of the railway tracks was crossing the Rock Island tracks on East Douglas avenue, and this bus was run into by a swiftly moving southbound Rock Island train. Several people were killed outright and many were severely injured. Texas Jack with his aggregation of cowboys and buffaloes and his girl riders and broncho busters always drew a big crowd, and Oklahoma Harry Hill organized here in Wichita an aggregation which bid fair to rival the great show

of Buffalo Bill. Joe Rich went into this game as the manager and regrets it yet. One of the early shows of this town was organized by Bob Neff. In the early days of Oklahoma, Bob went to Blackwell, Okla., and opened a law office. He was afterwards elected probate judge, but the call of the boards was too strong for him; he again donned his broad-brimmed hat, let his hair grow out long and again took his favorite character of "Lollypop." Wichita has always been a good show town; Sedgwick county has always patronized the shows, from an all around railroad show or circus, with its acres of canvas and trained animals, to the barnstorming company from the kerosene circuit.

THE NORTHWEST CORNER.

Until the building of the Kansas Midland railway in 1887, the northwest corner of the county, north of the Arkansas river, was without a railroad. A large portion of this land in Eagle township was within the Santa Fe land grant, and it was sold upon payments and its development was correspondingly slow. Acres and acres of this fine land for many years laid out in pasture and without cultivation. The settling of an English colony west of Valley Center and the building of the railroad gave the country a new impetus, and the land was rapidly put under the plow. The Zimmerman neighborhood, the Oscar Winters farms, the Biggs neighborhoods and the holdings of Uncle John Williams proved most valuable. It was discovered that the northwest of Sedgwick county was within the corn belt. At this time there is no better land, no better producing land, nor a more prosperous portion of Sedgwick county than this same northwest. Among the prosperous farmers of this locality may be mentioned A. Cosson, Matt. Biggs, H. H. Hanson, Norman Calhoun, J. M. Ragan, Wesley Biggs and Albert Campbell.

THE HEART OF WICHITA.

What would ultimately be the business heart of Wichita has for a long time puzzled the old-timers and average citizen of Wichita. For many years North Main street seemed to have the lead on business. The corner of Main and Douglas avenue, known in frontier parlance as the New York corner, has always appeared to be the hub of the town. This has always been a prominent business corner, but as the town grew it gradually

dawned upon the residents of Wichita that the city would cease to revolve around that corner. The building of the postoffice building to the south and upon Market street, the city hall, and more than all of the elements combined, the building of the Smyth building eastward at the corner of Lawrence and Douglas avenues has served to disturb conditions somewhat. The Smyth building, being at once occupied by a large retail store carried on by Inness & Co., has had a great influence in moving business to the eastward. The town has become too large to revolve around one corner. It is spreading out. The Forum, built by the city, is upon Water street; the Eagle building is upon South Market street, and most of the depots are eastward on Douglas avenue. A great improvement has lately been noticed on the south side of Douglas avenue. As the principal business street, Douglas avenue now has and will likely keep the lead. So that the real heart of Wichita is at this time at no particular corner, but Douglas avenue is the main artery of business, and upon Douglas avenue is now transacted the principal business of the city. From the bridge across the great Arkansas river to the Santa Fe depot is today the heart of Wichita.

AN OLD LANDMARK.

The people who go south from the courthouse along Market street will recall the ancient Gothic house facing east two doors south of Central avenue. The whole place has fallen into decay and is generally unkempt and forlorn. Yet at one time this was one of the fine places in Wichita and was formerly the home of the mayor of the city. Some years ago and during the boom this house was the home of Mr. Brown, the junior member of the firm of Aldrich & Brown. Later on Mr. Brown left the city and located in Chickasha, Okla. But when Wichita was young and the cowboy was a daily sight upon our streets and Wichita was on the great cattle drive from Texas, this old house was the home of Jim Hope, the mayor of Wichita. In those days when a stranger came to Wichita he was taken in hand by Uncle Billy Griffenstein; by him turned over to Otto Weiss, his nephew, and Otto was always instructed to show him the town and especially show him this old house, which was then the proud residence of Mayor Hope. A few short years and this old house will forever

disappear from the face of the landscape and finer and more commodious buildings will take its place.

THE ARKANSAS RIVER.

It is a trite saying that large streams always run past big cities. If this saying holds true, Wichita is destined to be a large city. Col. Marsh Murdock used to claim that Wichita would be great because located at the confluence of the two rivers. The streams which run past Wichita have little bearing upon its commercial supremacy. The Big Arkansas, while it is one of the large streams of the North American continent and is 2,100 miles long, carries no commerce upon its bosom. No argosies from Spain ever enter the port of Wichita. The Arkansas river rises in the fastnesses of the Rocky Mountains and flows easterly through Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and southward. It waters a noble valley, and from its source on the great Continental Divide, where it bursts from the rock a limpid spring, and for fifty miles it is a beautiful trout stream. Its first contamination is at Granite, Colo., where a huge tail race from a placer mine pollutes its pure waters. At Pueblo it gathers other impurities which imparts its yellow colors to this stream for many, many miles. Through eastern Colorado and Kansas it has a distinct underflow, and it blesses all of the surrounding country. There was a time in the early eighties that congress appropriated the sum of \$35,000 to explore this river. A boat was constructed at Wichita and manned by engineers and the river was entered at this point and the boat poled and pushed down this stream. Enough time was wasted to use up this appropriation, and that was the last of navigating this portion of the Arkansas. About this time Bent Murdock, who lived at Eldorado, Butler county, jeered at Wichita and its claims to being the head of navigation on the Arkansas river. He said "that the Arkansas river at Wichita was navigable only for channel catfish and that any boat which could run on a heavy dew could run on the Arkansas river at Wichita."

THE LITTLE ARKANSAS RIVER.

"Here the rank thistle nodded in the wind and the wild fox dug his hole unscared."

The Little Arkansas river forms a confluence with the larger

stream within the corporate borders of the city of Wichita. The Great Arkansas is a larger stream and flows from mountain to plain for 2,100 miles, but in no sense does it possess in Kansas the attractions of the smaller stream. The smaller stream makes a beautiful and fruitful valley, stretching from its very source in Rice county to its junction with the larger stream in the beautiful park system of the city of Wichita. There is no more attractive spot in Kansas than the junction of these historic streams. A fine expanse of water, a magnificent stretch of woodland, nature and art combined, the natural forest combined with the skill of the landscape gardener, present a most pleasing picture to the eye. The native timber has been preserved with infinite care and the rich alluvial soil yields to the florist the most pleasing returns. On the elegant drives and along the banks of this stream, where once the Indian warrior wooed his dusky mate, the speedy roadster with the rubber-tired buggy and the luxurious automobile now take the road. Northward from Wichita along the Little Arkansas river are located some of the most fertile farms in the entire state of Kansas.

THE WICHITA BOOM.

By

THE EDITOR.

During the years 1886 and 1887 occurred the Wichita boom. In its trail it left a track of devastation, which lasted for a decade and more. A period of wild speculation was on the entire western country. It was not confined to Wichita but took in the interior West and the Rocky Mountain region. It was a disease like the "milk sick" in Indiana. It had to run its course. It was a microbe which was inhaled in the air and the most conservative men in the East who came to Wichita at that time, either for permanent or temporary purposes, "who came to scoff, remained to pray," falling under the influence of the deadly parasite, inhaling the microbe, in one week they became as wild as their fellows and joined the maddening crowd. It was a "fool's paradise," complete in one chapter, and it was followed in 1888 with a reaction which jarred business in Wichita and the West to its very foundations. During this boom, which was a wild, unrea-

soning craze, men lost their reason, went into the wildest speculations, projected new lines of railway, built new buildings mostly on mortgages and borrowed capital, turned stores and business houses into real estate offices, and acted the fool generally. As a result, when the reaction came, Wichita woke up to find itself a wreck. Many fine pieces of property went for the taxes, many more went under the hammer of the sheriff, mortgage foreclosures clogged the court docket, and distress was broadcast over Sedgwick county and all over this interior West. To recoup their fallen fortunes men seized upon other and what they supposed were lesser dilemmas. The grafter was abroad in the land and his harvest was a bountiful one. Wildeat stock in corporations capitalized a hundredfold and in most improbable localities found ready sale. All kinds of stocks in mines, manufactures and kindred schemes were floated upon a long suffering and deluded public. Finally a halt was called. It came as the result of a sober second thought. The bubble burst, the idol was shattered, the stock looked like money but would not draw a dollar at the bank. It finally dawned upon our people that the same money invested in Wichita property or Sedgwick county lands would bring far greater returns. The light of reason broke.

THE STRUGGLES OF THE EARLY BUSINESS MEN.

The many citizens of Wichita who now enjoy the later civilization of the present and all that goes to make up the enjoyment, schools, churches, theatricals, transportation facilities, and all that goes with a metropolitan city, little understand the struggles of the early settlers and those business men of an earlier day, whose shoulders bore the heat and burden of the fray. Each day brought forth its annoying struggle to keep Wichita to the front, and it was simply a survival of the fittest. The competition among towns was fierce. The Santa Fe built southward and Winfield and Wellington were rivals at our very door. These towns were in those early days no puny rivals, as they were exploited by active, energetic business men and a farming country as good as ours. The transportation lines in this interior West were determined to build up a large number of towns rather than any whose size and ambition would call for additional transportation lines. Such was the situation in Wichita in the early eighties. But with a wonderful tenacity and an unparalleled energy our

business men faced this perplexing situation. Location counts for something, but cities are made by the men in them, and Wichita today stands in her territory without a rival. The time has now come to cease thinking of Oklahoma City as a rival of Wichita. Oklahoma City is a marvel of energy, but it is a day's swing of a train from this city. It is in another state. It has a field very much like ours. It is and always will be the metropolis of the new state. It does not cut into our field like Hutchinson. The latter place is only forty-five miles away. Reno county is one of the best in the state. Hutchinson is full of energy. It naturally reaches west and southwest of us, and it commands a fine territory. In the natural order of things it will wax stronger and grow, but it is in Wichita's field; it is within the charmed circle which surrounds Wichita; it is simply an integral point within the radius of the far-famed golden circle so graphically described by Prof. Eugene Fahl, of the Wichita Chamber of Commerce.

**A LITTLE REMINISCENCE OF THE DAYS WHEN WICHITA
WAS YOUNG—INSPIRED BY LOOKING AT THE
BEACON BUILDING.**

By

KOS HARRIS.

In the days of long ago, on South Main street, just back of the old Eagle block, where the Boston store now stands, there stood a one-story paint shop, a blacksmith shop and about 75x100 feet of tall sunflowers. Across the street was a millinery store owned by Mrs. Louise Henderson; south of her store was a paint shop and a dwelling house, occupied by a painter, who often viewed the "wine when it was red." In fact, very red and when it colored the cup. After looking on the wine, he usually whipped his wife and then went to the calaboose, owned by the city and built up with 2x4 studding to about eight feet in height. Next morning he usually pleaded guilty, his wife got the fine remitted and for one or two moons things ran smoothly at the paint shop. On the site of the paint shop and the blacksmith shop the present Beacon building now stands. Back of the old paint shop Karatofsky, then one of the great merchant princes of the city, whipped his son daily, tri-weekly and weekly. "Karatof" had a second

wife about four or five years older than the son and the twain did not agree. Hence the regular mauling.

If, in 1874, 1884, 1894, 1904, any "biped" in Wichita had said that the old Cooper stable, which had just been torn down to make room for the Beacon building, would be torn away and on its site there would be a ten-story building such as the Beacon building, the said "biped" would have heard a "horse laugh," compared to which all other "horse laughs" would be as a whistle in a hailstorm. Indulging in reminiscences of the days of old; the days of gold; the days when Wichita was young and new and "life was sweet and bright as sparkling dew," I am reminded of the business world of Wichita at and near the site of the Beacon building at the date of the paint shop and for some years afterwards. In 1878, contiguous to the Beacon building site amongst others were the following: George Y. Smith & Co. had a dry goods store, Caldwell & Titsworth had a queensware store, the Wichita Savings Bank was in the corner and Hollowell & Byers had a hardware store. All this was on the ground floor of the present Boston store. East to Market street from the old Eagle block was Albert Hess, grocer, now of the Wichita Wholesale Grocery Company. Directly west of Hess was Dieter & Kaiser's new, up-to-date, modern barber shop and bathrooms. In this barber shop there was a workman, one Tony Bruhn. Tony was a Prussian drillmaster and also a boxer, and always wanted to put on the gloves and box. One day the writer got shaved, and after he got out of the chair Tony squared himself to box. The writer got his hat and coat and then hit Tony in the nose and ran out of the back door across a vacant lot now occupied by the United States postoffice, and did not go to the barber shop to get shaved until Tony sent him word that a general armistice had been declared and the war was over. On the front part of this vacant lot there used to stand a little one-story building, and in this building some of the business men and professional men, as well as the married women of Wichita, in the early days, attended a kindergarten.

Butler & Fisher had a hardware store between Market street and Eagle block. Henry Bolte had a furniture store where Kress & Co. now are on Douglas avenue. Henry sold good furniture, and this article is written while I am sitting in a willow chair bought of Henry Bolte in 1877. Tom Jewell had a real saloon and Steele & Levy had a real estate office where Frazier's drug

store and George McNeal's barber shop are. The second floor of the old Eagle block contained the court room, the general political convention room, dance hall and reception room for state occasions, and also Little, Sluss & Hatton and B. D. Hammond, attorneys-at-law, had their offices on the second floor; also the old Eagle office was in this building. Across the street, running from the Henry Schweiter corner east to Jackson & Walker's, was what was called the New York block, which, when built, was a thing of beauty. Six rooms of the ground floor on Douglas avenue were occupied as follows: Kohn Brothers' store; Charles L. Lawrence, druggist; J. P. Allen, druggist; Allen & Tucker, grocers; Richards & Rogers, grocers, and T. H. Lynch, dry goods. In the second floor of the New York block there were some attorneys and loan agents, the following being among the attorneys: Adams & Hill, L. B. Bunnell, Governor Stanley and H. E. Higginbotham. Also, in the alley corner, was the Wichita "Beacon," H. C. Day, loan agent and N. McClees, loan agent.

West of the Boston store was the Eagle clothing house and what was called the Commercial block, now the National Bank of Commerce, American Express Company and Gibson's harness and saddlery store. The old United States land office was on the second floor and was occupied by attorneys: D. B. Emert, O. D. Kirk, J. F. Lauck, W. W. Thomas and Harris & Harris.

The buildings where the Kansas National Bank now is and the buildings immediately north and west to the alleys had liquor, liquor, liquor. In fact, this corner at that time was devoted to the legitimate business of illegitimate business. The liquor dealers in Wichita at that date who paid city license and did business openly and publicly were Beach, Brown, Dill, Ditman, Gardiner, Jewell, Keehler, Hollister, Schattrer Brothers, Ritter, Hoover, Lemeks, Vincent, Werner, and Schnitzler. The places now occupied by them are but a reminiscence and their names are almost faded from the memory of the residents of Wichita. Even in that early day the corner of Main and Douglas was the business heart of Wichita. Then it was, as now it is, the "beehive" corner of Wichita. The Beacon building is exactly 138 feet south of the "beehive" corner, where a man who wears a No. 10 boot steps on \$1,500 worth of land every time he moves. Since those days time in its whirl-a-gig hath had many ups and downs for Wichita. Verily we have experienced the motto of Kansas, "To the stars from tribulations," or words to that effect or similar import. We

have sailed in the clouds, been dragged in the gutter, like a kite; decked ourselves in plumage like a peacock, a rag man and tramp and have had nectar and ambrosia, wormwood and gall. We have "bulled" real estate till the bull broke his neck. We have "beared" real estate until the bear hibernated for some years from shame. This and all this in one decade.

The "Beacon" had an humble beginning as well as some great men. Milt Gable got it. He made a mortgage on it to Billie McClure. He skipped the town. Harris & Harris foreclosed the mortgage. Frank Smith and Frank Fisher bought the plunder and continued the business at the corner of Main and Second streets. Cap White came in from his claim on the Ninnescah to edit the "Beacon," and for many years the "Beacon" had editorials on the brutality of the policeman's club, said policeman's club typifying the brute force in government in all its phases.

Wichita owes the Beacon building to Henry J. Allen as the great factor in this building. "All honor to him who won the prize" in this \$350,000 raffle, gamble and bid on the future of Wichita. When we things that are now, are dead and gone, when the future babe shall carry the "Beacon" to our homes and the present babe reads the paper and carries on business and conducts the municipal affairs of Wichita, when the middle-aged man, who is in the "lean and slippered pantaloons" age, takes the grandchildren downtown to see the sights and some little tot asks, "Grandpa, who built the Beacon building?" grand-dad will say, "The men of Wichita built it and paid for it without any mortgage on it, moved thereto by the spirit force, enthusiasm and pluck of Henry J. Allen, then editor of the "Beacon." His bones are out on the hill, but this building is his monument."

October 7, 1910.

THOUGHTS OF HELPING WICHITA.

By

KOS HARRIS.

The writer was waiting in an office in Kansas City for an acquaintance, where an East St. Louis "preferred stock broker" of a manufacturing concern was distributing a prospectus that was dazzling. The thought occurred, if the facts alleged in the pros-

pectus were true, all the broker need do was to cross the railway bridge at St. Louis and sell all his stock in one day among the owners of idle money in St. Louis, who were seeking safe and permanent investment. The man who run the office came out of his private room, was approached by the broker and the reason he gave why he would not invest in the "preferred stock" has stuck in my mind like a "sand-burr to a sheep's tail" ever since. The statement made was about as follows:

"I live in Kansas City, am interested in its material welfare, taxable values, the growth of population and in all things that will tend to make it a greater city. Whatever benefits Kansas City has a remote tendency, at least, to help me. Whatever helps the state of Missouri in a measure benefits me. Whatever builds up Jackson county adds taxable property to Kansas City and helps every resident and property owner in Kansas City. All my investments are in Missouri and nearly all in Kansas City.

"An investment in Illinois is merely an investment. An investment in Kansas City is more than a simple investment. If I throw a stone in the Missouri river at Kansas City it creates a wave that is seen at the spot where I throw it, and this wave is carried a little distance, and then the water becomes smooth again, but I know where I threw my stone and where the biggest wave was. No investment I can make outside of Kansas City or the state of Missouri can benefit my town, county and state. I prefer to throw my rocks into the Missouri river at Kansas City. If you move your concern to Kansas City or Jackson county and the stock is good I might consider the same."

Is there not common horse sense in this reasoning? Is it not true that a Kansas man who puts his hard-earned dollars in an unknown scheme, away from home, risks his fortune, builds up another city or state and does not benefit his own home? Is it not true also that a Kansas man who invests in a Kansas venture has a better chance to win and that he also aids his own city, county and state? Every man in Wichita knows that he is in the best city, county and state in the Union. He believes it. The stranger who comes here realizes or he would not come. Why would we not as loyal patriotic Kansans and loyal citizens of Wichita prove our faith by our own works by sticking to Wichita, to Sedgwick county and to Kansas?

The present mercantile concerns and manufacturing industries

in Wichita need more capital. The stocks and bonds of our own Wichita concerns are more worthy of investment and consideration than any outside stock can be. It is a plain proposition that if we invest in Wichita, in Sedgwick county or in Kansas we are benefitting the city, the county or the state and also we are helping our own friends at home. We benefit ourselves and we add wealth to Kansas and increase our own tax rolls. Wichita has put more than a million dollars into outside schemes outside of the state of Kansas, some of which are good and others of which have proven worthless. This more than a million dollars in Wichita buildings would have built buildings equal to the Boston store, the Barnes block, the Innes store, the Beacon building and the Schweiter building, and the result would have been a dividend at home, adding beauty to the city of Wichita and a million dollars to the tax rolls of Wichita and Sedgwick county to cut down the general annual tax levy.

The mere individual in this day and age cannot build the buildings that Wichita demands for the business homes of all its manufacturing and mercantile concerns that are here and those we desire to come. Wichita is in its infancy as a manufacturing town and as a wholesale town. Kansas City has one thousand capitalized concerns for mercantile and manufacturing purposes, and if Wichita succeeds some body of men must furnish the capital for the man who has the brains sufficient to run the business but not money enough to enlarge it or put a new business on foot to compete with foreign concerns. Every bond issue by the city of Wichita should be owned by a Sedgwick county citizen.

When Wichita realizes that the building of a city is "a joint stock concern," in which every man should have a share; when we realize that keeping our money at home for home investments is a duty we owe to the city, county and state, as well as a profit to ourselves; when we realize that there is no place where an invested dollar is safer than at home, guarded by home people and by home laws; when we realize that 50,000 more people to Wichita means an added percentage to every lot and every acre of land in, around and about Wichita; when we realize that if the city continues to grow we will have to add bank capital to the present bank capital and manufacturing capital for the manufacturer and mercantile capital for the merchants; when all these facts melt into the mind of the property owners and residents in Wichita we will realize that a rock thrown in the Arkansas river

at Wichita creates a wave here and that a stone in Oklahoma, in Texas or Colorado will only be a rock thrown in the dark and only the investor can realize any benefit and in some cases he may not get any profit. The rock that creates the ripple when thrown in the river at Wichita is a benefit to the city, the county and the state.

THE MAIN NORTH AND SOUTH STREET OF WICHITA.

By

THE EDITOR.

Everybody concedes that Douglas avenue is the principal business street of Wichita. For a long time the town revolved around the corner of Main and Douglas avenue. It has now outgrown this proposition. There was a time when it meant business disaster to get a block away from this corner. That day is past; in the natural order of things, as the town expanded, business had to go somewhere. It is now solidly intrenched between the bridge and the railroad tracks. It has deadened over the line; it has gone east of the tracks; it has gone west of the river. But the main push and volume is within the limits named above. The Masonic Temple is on North Topeka. Long-headed and careful business men like Joe Hollike, W. E. Jett, Professor Samuels, W. W. Pearce, Mason Nevins, Fred Aley, E. L. Martling and O. C. Daisy, aided and abetted by such careful men as Judge Dale, still sing the praises of Topeka avenue. Others as equally sagacious, like Butts & Son, Smythe Brothers, Arthur Pauline, Cone & Cornell, J. S. Giwosky, M. A. McClellan, and many others, still contend for Lawrence avenue. They cite the fact that Lawrence avenue is a section line and 200 miles long, and they show their faith by their investments and dollars. If anyone could tell to a dead moral certainty which would be the main cross street of the town, Lawrence or Topeka avenues, that one could make quite a bunch of money. Suffice it to say that the town has outgrown the corner of Main and Douglas idea, and the overflow is now taking place both north and south of Douglas avenue. There is at this time a spirited rivalry between Lawrence and Topeka avenue as to future supremacy.

THE McKNIGHT LAND.

When the daily press of Wichita runs short of news it always begins on the McKnight land. This land and its status has become a matter of general public interest. This land consists of 123 acres of fine land, all within the city limits of Wichita. It is surrounded by the improvements of the city. This land is owned by Joseph Hudson McKnight. The purchase and conservation of this land has made Mr. McKnight a rich man. This holding is bounded on the west by Hydraulic avenue and on the north by Douglas avenue. Conservative business men estimate the value of the McKnight land at \$300,000.

This land was originally the Hoover homestead. It was formerly occupied by Samuel H. Hoover, the owner of the well-known Hoover orchard. Mr. McKnight came here from Anthony, Kan., and early saw the possibilities of Wichita. With wonderful foresight and excellent business judgment Mr. McKnight bought the Hoover land of the Black estate. It is rumored that the entire tract cost him approximately \$6,500. That he made a fine investment no one will deny. The time will come when all of this land will be covered by the city of Wichita.

THE DRAINAGE CANAL.

The drainage canal is an unsightly gash cut through the city. It is supposed to take the meanderings out of the Chisholm creek. Chisholm creek was placed upon the landscape by providence, for what purpose only providence knows. Wichita in the past being located originally upon a level plain, has suffered considerably from high water. It was Finlay Ross, who was then mayor, who conceived the project of a drainage canal. Surveys were made, appraisers appointed and a line was run from Twenty-first street to Linwood Park. The canal cost \$106,000. Some of the conservatives say it cost too much; others say that it is useless; others say that with this amount of bonded indebtedness—the envious call it Ross' folly—that it costs the city about \$500 per month to pay the interest on the bonds. And still others say that it is a good thing. Its utility is to be demonstrated in the future. To make this drainage canal effectual the lower end of it should be extended to the Arkansas river. Up to the present time the county commissioners have refused to take the matter of extension under

consideration. The time is not far distant when this extension will be made. At this time the drainage canal serves to drain the packing house district of flood water. This in itself is very important. At some future time, when the city can afford it, it is designed to level the banks of the drainage canal, arrange a driveway on both sides and plant trees and shrubbery and beautify the banks. All this is in the future, when the city is more prosperous and has a sinking fund of money to draw upon. We shall see.

THE OLD MUNGER HOUSE, THE FIRST HOUSE IN WICHITA "Eagle," April 24, 1910.

Such little interest has been taken in Wichita in local history, and so little has been done towards the preservation of articles of former days, which in years to come will be of great interest as historical souvenirs, that the recent action of the park commissioner in causing the removal and restoration of a log cabin, which is now in Riverside Park near the Zoo, should meet with public approval. This is one of the first efforts to preserve for posterity some of Wichita's early history. Commendable as was the object in this preservation of the cabin, it is lamentable that the historical value of the log cabin which Sam F. Stewart has removed from the premises of P. J. Conklin at 901 North Waco avenue has been challenged. It was carefully removed and put together to be an enduring souvenir of one of Wichita's first settlers. Mr. Conklin, who lives in the former home of the late "Commodore" W. C. Woodman, who lived in the original home of D. S. Munger, gave the log cabin to Commissioner Stewart to place in the park as a relic. Historical societies in Wichita for the next 300 years will pass many an interesting evening of discussion in trying to determine just exactly what was the first house in Wichita, and who was the first settler, and who was the real founder of the city. When it came time for the Osage Indians to be removed from what is now Wichita there was a race among settlers to prove up homesteads on the government land, and especially a race to lay out a townsite, as the hunters and traders who had long operated among the Indians had always marked the junction of the two rivers as the site for a city. Rival townsite companies were in a great rush to get a claim proved up in order to plat it for the town of Wichita. Eli P. Waterman proved up one claim, which he sold to William Greiffenstein, and D. S. Munger,

representing a land company composed of parties at Burlingame, proved up another claim. Both of these claims became parts of the townsite.

Mr. Munger was a native of New York state, where he was born in 1812. He was a hardy pioneer in several western localities and was living at Topeka when the land company induced him to take a claim at Wichita. He arrived in the spring of 1868, and at once set about building his house, which was more than a year in the course of construction. He left his wife and daughter Mary in Topeka, as Mrs. Munger was not in good health and the daughter was attending Bethany Seminary. In the spring of 1869, however, Mary Munger, then fourteen years of age, joined her father in Wichita, and Mrs. Munger came on in the fall. Of the building of the Munger house, Mrs. Mary E. Munger Watson said to the "Eagle": "Father built the house himself, cutting down the cottonwood trees on what we called Teuchel island, because a man named Teuchel lived there. This was very near where the two rivers join. Father crossed the river in a skiff. He hewed the logs out with an adz and carefully joined them into a substantial house. He made three rooms downstairs and four rooms above. Later on we put on an addition on the south side, and this became the hotel office and had three upper rooms, and we also added a kitchen. For lath he used small willows which grew along the river, and he burned his own lime for the mortar and plaster, and also used buffalo hair for the plaster. His lime kiln was on the river bank back of the house. He hauled the window sash, glass and flooring from Emporia. In those days, where most of the city of Wichita now is, was then nothing but prairie, and there wasn't a tree between the Little Arkansas river and Chisholm creek.

"Near our house was the Durfee ranch, which was a trading post, and this was on the river northwest of our house. The Indians used to come there to trade, and there were lots of soldiers stationed there when I first came to Wichita. I remember that I used to think it was a very rough place, and I used to keep out of the way, because I was only fourteen years old and I was afraid sometimes.

"Father was the postmaster, and I was the first deputy postmistress in Wichita. In the little room on the north side of our house was our postoffice. This was a table about three feet long, and on it I piled up cigar boxes to make pigeon-holes for the let-

ters. Along about 1869 and 1870, when lots of travelers began to come to Wichita, father opened a hotel in our house, and it also became a hospital. Many cowboys were brought to our hospital and most of them had been shot. Father also was justice of the peace. To decorate the house father plastered the north gable on the outside and he stuck pebbles in this plaster to ornament it. I do not know where the cabin, now at Riverside Park, came from, but it must have been built after our house. It could not have been our barn, because we did not have a barn, except that I had a little shelter made of poles for my pony. I know what I am talking about, because I helped father. He made the shingles for the roof himself and I held the light for him when he worked at night."

Mr. and Mrs. Munger were the original settlers in Wichita and built the first house on the townsite.

A FRONTIER INCIDENT.

Everybody in Sedgwick county knows Uncle Billy Mathewson. William Mathewson still lives in Wichita, enjoying himself at a ripe old age. He is said to be the original Buffalo Bill, and was here with Sheridan and Custer and William F. Cody. The following is an early incident in his career, and he has a career which reads like a romance. In his day on the frontier he was one of the celebrated scouts.

There are no round-ups for the early day plainsmen any more, and so it is with added pleasure that friends of the sixties and seventies meet. So it was when William C. Peacock, "Left-Handed Bill," called upon Col. William Mathewson, "Buffalo Bill," of this city, some time ago. It had been thirty years since these two hardy frontiersmen had seen each other. Mr. Peacock's home is in Kansas City. He stopped off at Wichita while on his way home from a trip to Oklahoma, where he goes frequently to visit his old stamping ground at Fort Sill, and pay his regards to old friends. At El Reno lives Albert Curtis, son of "Old Dick Curtis," interpreter, scout and half-breed Sioux, with whom Mr. Peacock lived at Larned in 1868. Here, too, is Ben Clark, nor should Lone Wolf and Big Tree be forgotten. At Anadarko "Jimmy" Jones and Tom Peet live. With Clark, Curtis and Jones, memories of "Hurricane Bill" Martin, "Buffalo Bill" Mathewson and "Wild Bill" Hickock were the topics of conversation, but with Lone

Wolf and Big Tree "Zane-pong-za-del-py" was the all-absorbing thought.

Now "Zane-pong-za-del-py" is the aboriginal root for "Bad Man With the Long Beard," a designation for Col. William Mathewson, applied to him when he made a piece of Indian history that forms an epoch to this day. Colonel Mathewson, the original "Buffalo Bill," as he was known among his own people, was keeping a store or supply house at Great Bend at that time. The Kiowas were camped near there, and one of their number ventured out, under the protection of night's blackness, to steal a horse from the stockade. Colonel Mathewson caught sight of the red rascal as he was fleeing in the then most popular mode of horse stealing, astride the stolen horse's back. Mathewson picked the Indian from the horse's back with a shot, inflicting a wound from which the Indian died a few days after.

Colonel Mathewson's fair treatment of the members of the different tribes with whom he came in contact in his trading expeditions and daily business had won him a reputation, valuable to him in a business way and as securing his person against vicious assaults. He maintains today that whatever bad the character of the Indian showed in those days was due, or at least made operative, by the white man's military hysteria. So the Kiowas could hardly look upon his shooting of the horse thief as malicious or unjust, for it was generally understood that had the robber been a white man he would have fared no better at the hands of Mathewson. Notwithstanding this fact, however, Satanta, a war chief of the tribe, grasped the opportunity, as he thought, of gaining an advantage for himself. Satanta came to Mathewson's place a day or two after the death of the stable pilferer. With him was a circle of swarthy bucks, whose different visages wore looks of expectation and menace, but none of fear or indifference. Satanta entered the store alone. His companions crowded around the entrance. Mr. Mathewson was behind the counter when the giant Satanta moved slowly up to the counter with a glance about the place to assure himself that he was alone with his prey. Mathewson did not move even a step, although within five feet of him behind a showcase and out of sight of the red beast lay a big Colt's six-shooter. He kept his eye not on the weapon in the hands of Satanta but on that devil's eye. To a citizen living in the peace of a Kansas town of today, under the protection of ample police force, with most of the Indians in their happy hunting grounds,

the suspense of those few moments would seem unconditionally terrible; yet to "Buffalo Bill" they were but a valuable period of time which allowed him to think of a mode of procedure, for he was always as "cool as a cucumber," and was never known to lose his head. Finally Satanta spoke. The words were in the native tongue of the tribe, but the signs that went with them plainly indicated that Satanta said to Mathewson: "Give us goods or I will kill you for the murder of my kinsman." Without any change of expression, but with a free hand motion, Mathewson directed his sweeping arm to the shelves behind him, and said: "Satanta, there are the goods. Take them." The avaricious red, with a motion to his waiting companions, started to the end of the showcase to get behind the counter. Mathewson had not been idle in the meantime. Intent upon getting his hands upon the white man's goods, Satanta had not noticed Mathewson's change of position and knew not of it until he felt the crushing blow of Mathewson's revolver upon his head. No sooner had he delivered the blow than Mathewson leaped upon the fallen Satanta and, picking the senseless Indian, threw and half kicked him into the midst of his assembled braves outside of the store. "Take him away quick or I'll kill him," spoke "Buffalo Bill" to the Kiowas in the same quiet way in which he had offered Satanta the goods.

That ended the trouble with the Kiowas, and although Satanta lost a reputation, Colonel Mathewson found one. After that for years "Zane-pong-za-del-py" had only to point his finger to get Satanta to sit down and "be good."

WICHITA.

From the "Elk County Citizen," Howard, Kan.

Some cities, like some individuals, have a personality. Wichita is in this class. Whenever that city is mentioned one thinks of great things. Wichita is the favorite child of Kansas. Here the true Kansas spirit is found. All Kansans regard Wichita with much the same feeling that a fond parent feels toward a child that has "made good." Kansas has had her troublesome days, but is now in the broad open sunlight of prosperity. The day was when Wichita—the "Peerless Princess"—was a dirty-faced tomboy with soiled and torn garments, but now she is decked in garments befitting the name which her best-loved citizen gave her—he who was her prophet in her infancy and devoted his life to her

service. Wichita is located in the Arkansas valley, the richest body of farming land in the world. She is served by eight lines of steam railway and work has begun on a trolley system that will place her in touch with every city within one hundred miles distance. The population of the city is considerably above the 50,000 mark and is increasing rapidly. Wichita has two of the best and ablest newspapers published in any city in the United States of her size. Thirty-five other newspapers, weekly, monthly and daily, present her interests to the outside world. She has sixty-six churches, twenty-five schools, ten colleges and technical schools, seven hospitals, extensive and beautiful public parks, fourteen banks, great elevators, big mills, three packing plants employing more than 1,500 people, wholesale and jobbing houses representing every branch of business, is the largest market for broomcorn in the world, is the greatest distributing city for agricultural implements, save one, and in many other lines is ranked in the highest class.

During the past year 1,895 homes were built, besides many substantial and towering business blocks, and there is building at this time more than 800 homes, with more than \$5,000,000 promised for building improvements during the coming year. Wichita is an open-faced town—nothing bid. There are no slum districts. One will not see there women and little children with pinching poverty gnawing at their vitals. The Brotherhood of Man seems to have found a lodging place in this fair city, and there is work and plenty for all. Her future is assured. Because of her superior citizenship, her enterprise, her excellent schools and colleges, her business opportunities, she is drawing to herself and will continue to draw the enterprising young man, and those who have outgrown their home towns, and those who have accumulated a competency, in all the surrounding territory; and this will continue until she will be classed with the ten great cities of this nation.

LOCAL CONDITIONS.

By

RODOLPH HATFIELD.

The old-timers, like myself, who have been in Sedgwick county for more than thirty years, delight to say that Wichita as a city is

not affected by local conditions. This is a grave error. While Wichita has nearly 55,000 people, the time has not yet arrived when it is not affected very seriously by local conditions. The town has always been keenly sensitive to local crop and other conditions. When in the early seventies Wichita was the largest primary wheat market in the world the wheat came here because it was the terminus of the Santa Fe railroad from Newton. The building of the railroad southward seriously affected the town and all of its conditions. All realty values weakened and the real estate market sagged very badly for several years. Prior to that time Wichita was the end of the Texas cattle trail. The moving of that trail to Dodge City very seriously affected the town, and, as the old settlers expressed it, "The town was gone." The most serious stroke that Wichita ever suffered was the dying of the boom, and it took years to recover from this setback. The old-timers and those who came later have always been very sensitive, and are still in that frame of mind. At the same time the people of this city have an abiding faith in the future of Wichita. They believe that it is on a solid basis; that it will grow and wax strong as the years go by. We have passed through our periods of depression, and, as we believe, are now in the clear noonday, with nothing ahead to make us afraid. The most careful observer of realty values now looks confidently to the next decade to make Wichita 100,000 strong.

THE POPULATION OF WICHITA, SEDGWICK COUNTY, AND THE STATE OF KANSAS.

The following is the population of Wichita, Sedgwick county and the state of Kansas, according to the latest official returns. Wichita and Sedgwick county take second place in population as they are in wealth. Also, as a matter of comparison, the cities of Kansas having a population of more than 10,000 people are also given:

The population of Kansas March 1, 1910, according to figures returned to the State Board of Agriculture and made public today, was 1,696,361, a decrease of 11,130 from the same date in 1909 and an increase of a quarter of a million in the last ten years. Wichita ranks second among the cities of the state, with 54,133, and Sedgwick is second among the counties, with 73,338.

The population of those cities having 10,000 or more inhabitants and the order of their rank follow:

Kansas City	91,300
Wichita	54,133
Topeka	45,143
Leavenworth	24,342
Coffeyville	18,174
Atchison	16,691
Hutchinson	16,572
Pittsburg	15,073
Parsons	14,490
Lawrence	13,779
Independence	12,372
Fort Scott	11,556
Salina	10,120

WICHITA SEES HER VISION AND SMILES.

The address of William Allen White at the laying of the cornerstone of the new Beacon building March 8, during the Wichita meeting of the Kansas Editorial Association: "If a thousand years are but as a watch in the night, the great heart of the ages has hardly throbbed a beat since the Indians left Wichita. Yesterday we had "Rowdy Joe" and his galaxy of tarnished stars in the dance hall. Tick tock goes the great clock, and, lo! we have the initiative and referendum and recall with the Law and Order League in serene control of the situation. What a city of dreams you are! God said let there be light and there was light. He smiled and there was Wichita. When one considers things as they were and as they are in this community, no miracle seems impossible. Changing water into wine is wonderful, but no more wonderful than changing the wilderness into a beautiful city in a generation. Feeding the multitude on five loaves and three small fishes is no greater marvel than is Wichita a dream city crystallized into form and substance in the twinkling of an eye. And the marvel of it all is not the substance of it in brick and stone, not the evidence of things seen, but the marvel of it is the realization of things hoped for in the relations of men to one another. It is not that you have 400 miles of streets, that you have waved the wand of progress and have made brick and stone and wood

and iron blossom into homes. The great wonder of Wichita is not its material structure, not the 50,000 people, but its civilization. Other cities have blossomed of old in other wildernesses. That is not so wonderful. The wonder of Wichita is not that 50,000 people live here but that 50,000 people live here so happily. Where else on earth will you find so little poverty as here? Where else on earth will you find so little difference between the rich and the poor as here? Speaking in the terms of eastern civilization, there are no rich here and no poor. You have achieved the dream of philosophers for thousands of years—a community wherein the profits of capital and labor are being distributed more nearly in fairness than they are distributed any place else in the world. In this young city, built by the people without class lines, without cruel contrasts, you have a civilization that would have been deemed a mere vision of a dreamer one hundred years ago. That is the wonder of Wichita. And that wonder is in a way epitomized in this building you are beginning today. It is a dream taking shape in stone and iron—a vision coming into material form. But the miraculous part of the vision is not its stone and iron but instead the economic significance of it. It epitomizes in little the miracle of Wichita. This is the people's town and this is the people's building. This city was built in the sublime faith of the people in themselves. This building is built in that same faith. No rich man owns it. It is built by the people—the common, ordinary home-making folks—for their own use and benefit. It is probably the first great structure ever erected in the world just by the folks without a debt or mortgage to the rich.

“That is the wonder of it—the economic stability of the common people. That is why this building is a monument to Wichita, and a tribute to the civilization of Kansas. It indicates a state of prosperity among the people never seen in the world before. It proves a distribution of the common wealth of the common people is more nearly equitable here and now than the ancient world has ever seen. The city of dreams is a city of the people. But the dreams of the people are not disturbed by debts or bonds or mortgages. The dreams are not nightmares. Wichita sees her visions and smiles.”

TAGS.

Tags is a dog, and yet there is not a person, man, woman or child, in the city of Wichita better known than Tags. He is a

yellow, rough-coated dog, with one lop ear. His habitat is in front of the Boston store, and his picture appears each afternoon in the "Daily Beacon," and his prognostications are read by all of the reading community. He is in a way a tramp dog, but he fares sumptuously every day, and on St. Patrick's day he sported a bright green ribbon tied around his neck by some friend. He sometimes leaves his post to bark at some motor car which is passing making an unusual noise, but he always returns to his post and, careless of the crowd, stretches himself at full length in the middle of the walk, and, unmindful of the passing throng, takes an afternoon nap. The building of the Orient shops, the location of the Auditorium, the raising of the \$50,000 to complete the Children's Home are daily incidents in the life of the city which do not worry Tags. He has grown into a landmark. The children all over the county know him, and the children in the city feed him. When he is sleeping everybody respects his condition and he slumbers on undisturbed, and when upon his feet everyone has a kindly word and hand for Tags.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS WERE LASTING.

"I never have grown tired of the valley of the Arkansas," said Dr. A. H. Fabrique, who is entitled to be called a real pioneer. "I first saw the valley from College Hill during the summer of 1869. I had come out to Eldorado, and decided to drive across and take a look at this valley. I cannot tell my impressions as our wagon reached the summit of the rise of ground now called College Hill, and I saw for the first time this wonderful valley of the Arkansas river stretching away to the Northwest as far as the eye could see. There was the river, then carrying much more water than it does now, and the Little river with its fringe of trees, with herds of cattle and of Indian ponies here and there. I made up my mind then and there to cast my lot in this valley, and the next spring, 1870, I came here and it has been my home ever since. There has never been a time in all these years that I have lost faith in this valley or this town, and though I am now an old man and have since seen many spots that are called beautiful and attractive, I have never seen a spot that pleased me as well as this valley."

VERSATILE PREACHER OF PIONEER DAYS.

The first preacher in Wichita was a man named Hilton, who afterward left here and became rich in Arizona. He is said by the pioneers to have been a versatile man, with the ability to preach a sermon, take hand in a knock-down, play poker or guzzle booze at the Bismarck saloon with equal relish and facility. Some of the old-timers who did not object so much to his propensity for card playing and liquor drinking, still contend that Hilton was one of the smartest men and best preachers that ever held a Wichita congregation spellbound by his eloquence.

This man preached in a small church with a shed roof, and frequently had in his congregation some of the most notorious desperadoes that ever lived in the West.

WICHITA'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER.

Wichita brings out the first daily paper ever published in southwestern Kansas. It is a Grant and Wilson paper, called the "Beacon," and is published by Millison & Sowers. We wish it success.—Bent. Murdock.

Off again, old wind. Use Vinegar Bitters for a change. We hurrah for the great American agriculturist and the original Missouri abolitionist from Kentucky.—From the "Daily Beacon" of October 29, 1872.

THE CHARITY OF WICHITA CITIZENS.

The old quotation from holy writ, "What shall it profit a man—," was never intended to discourage progress in things commercial. The Prince of Peace himself was a carpenter. He lived among fishermen, farmers and shepherds. He gave his encouragement to every man who was endeavoring to provide the material things necessary for his own comfort and that of those dependent upon him. If Jesus, the Christ, were on earth today he would not withhold a blessing from any man for promoting the commercial interests of his community by honest industry and faithful toil. But those who have read the sentiments of the inspired writers, or have heard them read occasionally, must have been impressed by the absence of exhortations to pile up endless riches or to get a corner on wheat. Where stocks and bonds are

mentioned in the modern financial journals, the Book of Books pleads for human sympathy. It describes attractively the length and breadth of charity—a field of wonderful promise, in which help and encouragement are brought to those who need them most, and in which men and women are raised from treacherous paths near the water's edge to a safer and better plane of life and thought and action. If charity were less important than it is, it would not have received so much emphasis from Him who brought to the world the most thrilling message men have ever heard. The story of the woman at the well would not have been made the feature of one of the most interesting chapters of the Bible if the Creator had not intended that men should concern themselves about the misfortunes of others. So it is interesting to know that while the men of Wichita who have talent for promoting commercial organization and industrial thrift have won power and prominence in the field of trade, others who have the qualities of mind and heart for the work of charity have built institutions where suffering from hunger and exposure is relieved, where struggling souls, burdened with failure and remorse, are sheltered through the tempest and warmed with love until the light of strength and usefulness appears again in the East.

The people of Wichita have shown a wonderful tenderness in the provisions they have made for unfortunates. Splendid hospitals have been erected and equipped for the care of the afflicted. Thousands of dollars have been freely appropriated by the people to provide a comfortable home for little children who have been deprived of the helpful care of loving parents. Sedgwick Home, which annually helps thousands of men and women to secure means of livelihood, is maintained by the funds which the people supply. There is a home here for fallen women who have no place else to go. Other homes have been provided for the helpless, the aged and the infirm. In a thousand ways a thoughtful citizenship has sought to share its comfort with those whose efficiency has been impaired by physical or mental ills. Charity is encouraged here. The work of charity is increasing in Wichita every year. It is a work of love and mercy which has enriched the lives of many citizens who are prominent and useful in other fields as well, and the touch of sympathy they have frequently administered has brought light and cheer to hundreds of souls that would quickly have perished without it.

